KAMOME SHIRAHAMA

Witch Hat Atelier

VOLUME

6

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CONTENTS

CHAPTER 30 ♦ 003

CHAPTER 31 ♦ 033

CHAPTER 32 ♦ 051

CHAPTER 33 ♦ 085

CHAPTER 34 ♦ 119

CHAPTER 35 ♦ 153

BONUS CHAPTER ♦ 170

WITCH HAT ATELIER

♦

KAMOME
SHIRAHAMA

Chapter 30

...THAT YOU PLEASE ACCOMPANY ME TO THE HALL.

I WOULD ASK...

ARE YOU *MAD*? LOOK AT HIM!

HE NEEDS A DOCTOR. *NOW.*

HUH? THE GREAT HALL...?

ZLIP

!

!

YOU MAY, OF COURSE, FIRST SEE TO WHATEVER TREATMENT HE REQUIRES...

...BUT MIGHT I REMIND YOU... AS A WATCHFUL EYE, YOU HAVE A DUTY TO REPORT *ANY* ANOMALOUS DEVELOPMENT OF WHICH—

SWIP

HANG IN THERE, QIFREY!

MASTER!

BUT I WANT YOUR WORD.

...FINE.

HURRY. LET US TRANSPORT HIM TO THE HEALING SPIRE.

MY WINDOW-WAY CONNECTS DIRECTLY TO THE BASE OF THE HALL.

WORRY NOT.

...

IF THE ORDER CAN'T TREAT THESE APPRENTICES WITH PROPER COURTESY...

...WE *WON'T* BE STICKING AROUND.

NO HARSH INTERROGATIONS. NOT LIKE LAST TIME.

THIS SUMMONS COMES NOT FROM THE KNIGHTS MORALIS.

THE WISE IN TEACHINGS ...?

IT IS LORD BELDARUIT, THE WISE IN TEACHINGS, WHO REQUESTS YOUR PRESENCE.

A...

WHO'S THAT?

ARE YOU JOKING?! HE'S ONE OF THE THREE WISE ONES!

THE GREATEST WITCHES OF OUR TIME!

IT JUST *HAD* TO BE BELDARUIT, OF ALL PEOPLE...

FWSH!

ACK!

GUESS WE DON'T HAVE A CHOICE. C'MON, YOU LOT.

EKOH! THIS ISN'T A GAME! WE'VE GOT REAL WORK TO DO!

AND I'M *NOT* ABOUT TO WASTE THIS WHOLE MISSION BABYSITTING MY LITTLE BROTHER!

HEY, ETLAN! LAST ONE TO FIND A TRACE OF THE SHADY MAGIC...

...IS A ROTTEN EGG!

DON'T WORRY, LULUCI!

WE KNOW, LULUCI!

YOU'RE EXPECTED BACK BY MORNING, SO *DON'T* TAKE ANY DETOURS!

WOO-HOO!

REMEMBER, YOUR MISSION IS TO FIND ANY WITCHES STILL STRANDED INSIDE THE CAVE!

AGOTT? IS SOMETHING WRONG?

HUH. I GUESS EVEN THE KNIGHTS HAVE SOME COLORFUL PERSONALI-TIES...

!

BUT THAT TEST... IT WAS REALLY IMPORTANT TO ME.

I KNOW NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO BE THINKING ABOUT IT...

NO, NOT REALLY.

BUT...

I WANTED TO MAKE IT HERE, TO THE EXIT, ON MY SKILL ALONE.

IT'S SO FRUSTRATING.

WITHOUT YOU, I WOULDN'T HAVE MADE IT OUT SAFELY.

YOU CAME AND SAVED THE DAY.

THANK YOU. FOR HELPING ME.

OH! YES, MASTER!

QUIT DAWDLING! THIS THING WON'T STAY OPEN FOREVER!

HEY!

HOW... WHY ARE YOU—

HUH?

TMP TMP TMP TMP

C'MON, AGOTT! LET'S GO!

FWUM

FORGET ABOUT IT.

WHAT WERE YOU SAYING JUST NOW?

WHOA...

LOOK AT ALL THIS MIST.

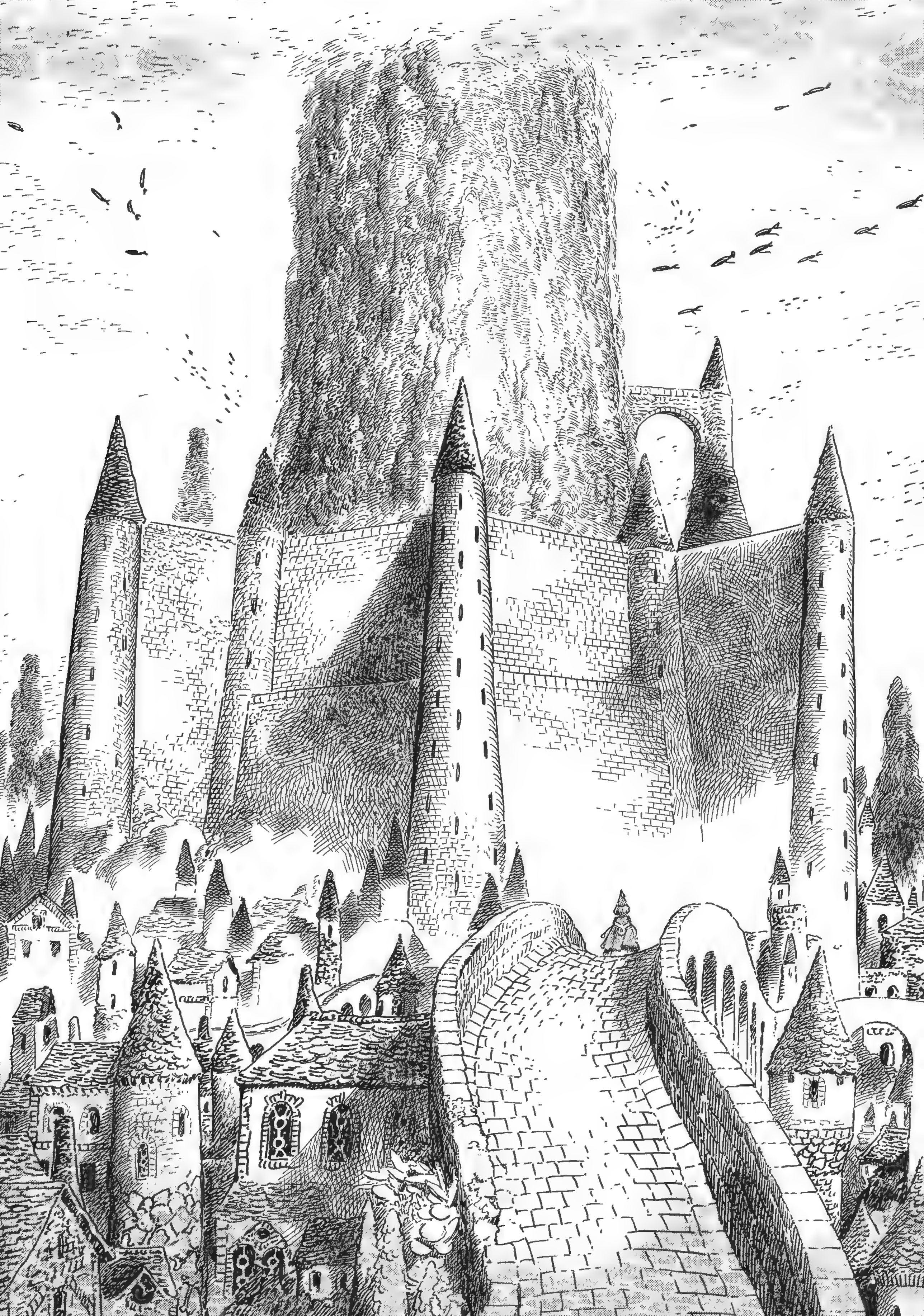
IT'S SO THICK, I CAN HARDLY BREATHE.

MAKE SURE YOU DON'T LEAVE THE MIST BASIN. WOULDN'T WANT TO DROWN.

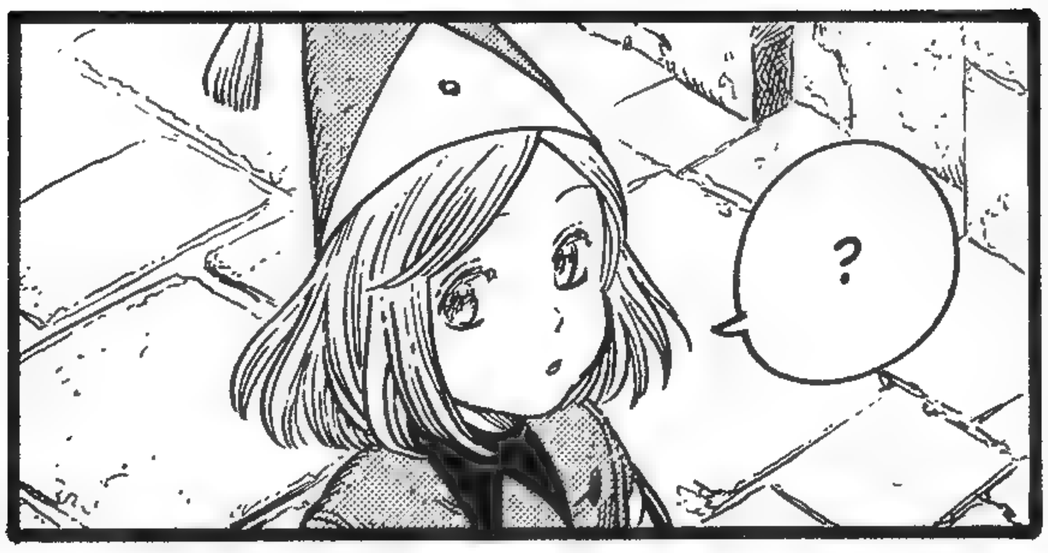
THE MIST IS MAGIC. IT'S WHAT *ALLOWS* YOU TO BREATHE.

OTHER WAY AROUND.

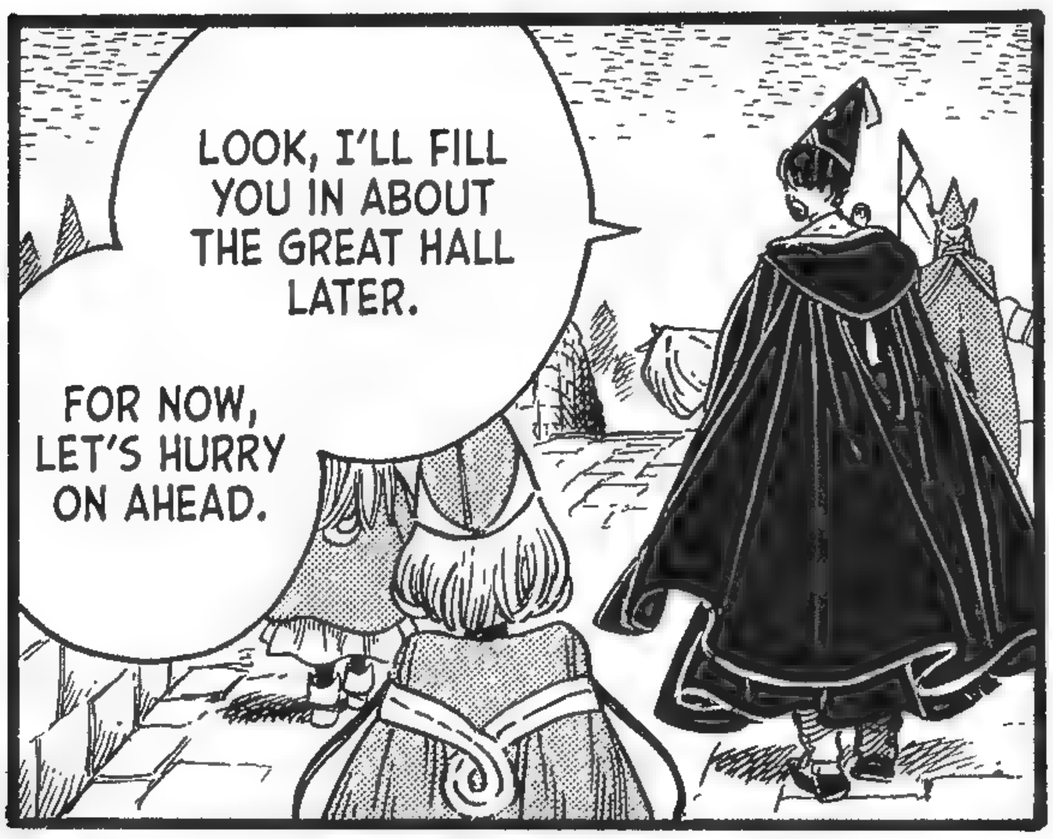
DROWN?

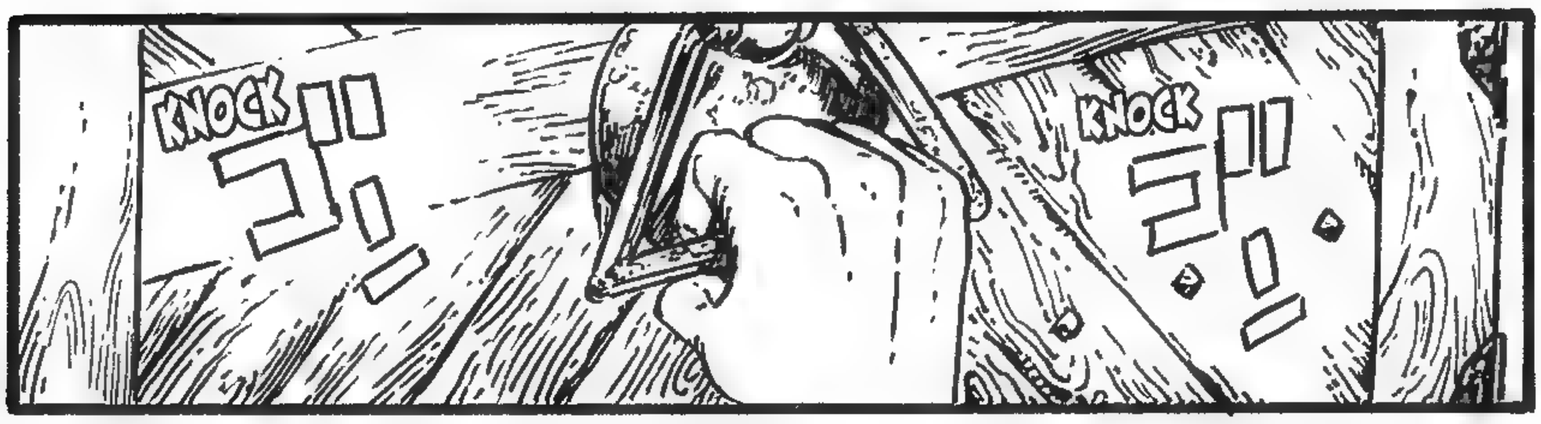


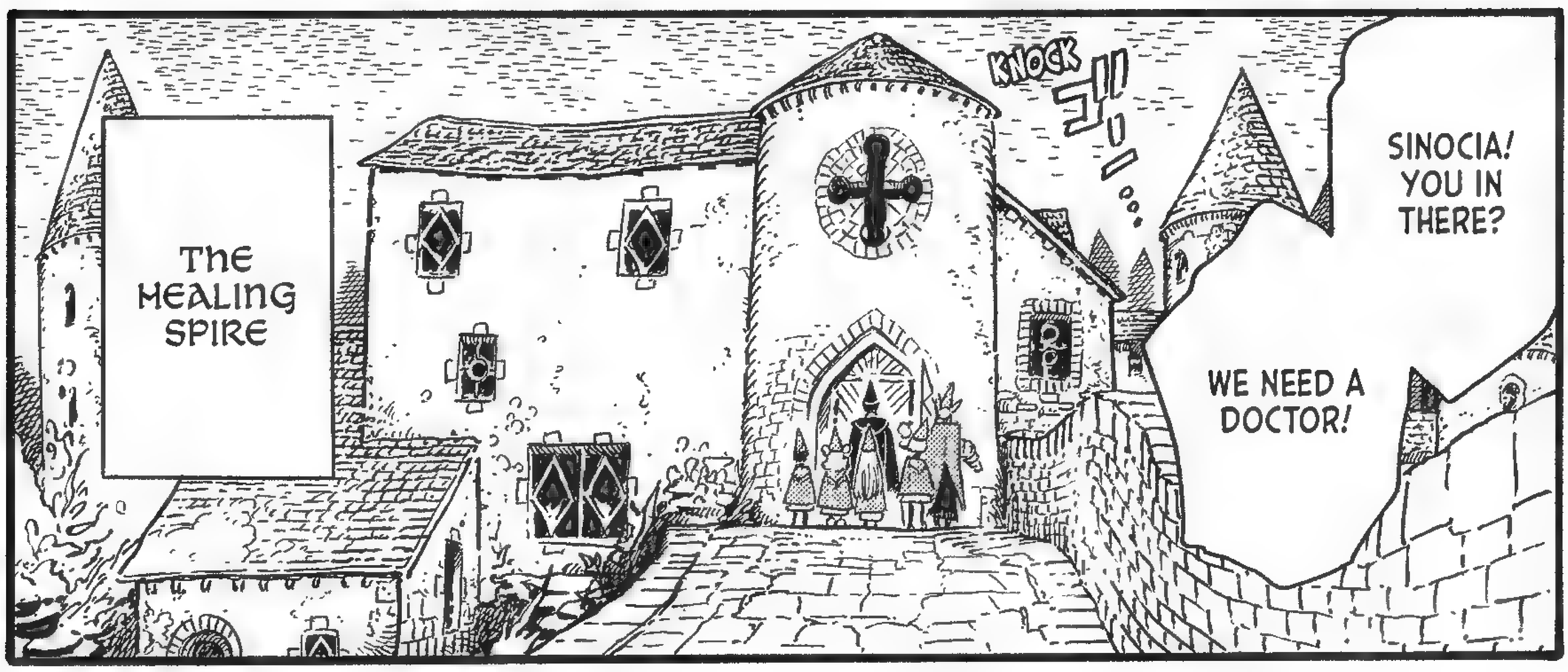
SPLISH
ばしゃん!
A FROG-FISH?
HOPPING INTO... WATER?
BLAP
ベチン
EEP!
ヒュン ZWIP
AFTER ALL THE MAGIC YOU'VE SEEN, *THIS* STILL SURPRISES YOU?
REALLY? YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS YET, COCO?
WHAT A NOVEL REACTION ...
WAIT! ARE WE *IN THE OCEAN* RIGHT NOW?!!
Oh my gosh, oh my gosh, oh my gosh!
AW, GEEZ...
MASTER QIFREY DOESN'T TALK ABOUT THE GREAT HALL VERY MUCH.
QIFREY DIDN'T TEACH YOU ABOUT THIS PLACE?


?

PROBABLY NOT A LOT OF FOND MEMORIES FOR HIM DOWN HERE...
I SUPPOSE HE WOULDN'T.


LOOK, I'LL FILL YOU IN ABOUT THE GREAT HALL LATER.
FOR NOW, LET'S HURRY ON AHEAD.


KNOCK
KNOCK


The Healing Spire
KNOCK
SINOCIA! YOU IN THERE?
WE NEED A DOCTOR!

OLRUGGIO DEAR!

WHY, IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE YOU LAST CAME BY!

MY, MY. WHAT'S THIS?

CREEEAK

WHAT KIND OF GREETING IS THAT?!

DOING WELL?

ANY NEW BURNS?

Hee hee...

Hee hee hee...

FWIP

HOW AWFUL!

QUICKLY! BRING HIM INSIDE!

BUT IT'S NOT ME TODAY, IT'S HIM.

CAN YOU HELP HIM? WE'VE MANAGED TO STOP THE BLEEDING-

THANK YOU, ERMILE! GET HIS WOUNDS WASHED AND DISINFECTED!
ON IT.
SLUMP
WATCH OUT!
I'VE GOT THIS.
LOOM
IT'S NOT LIKE QIFREY TO GET HIMSELF INJURED SO BADLY.
WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED?
YEAH, ABOUT THAT...
CAN'T SAY, HM? WHAT A SURPRISE.
YOU WITCHES AND YOUR SECRECY.
STAAARE
IT'S... COMPLICATED.
GLANCE

Y-YEAH ...

I'LL CALL YOU WHEN WE'RE FINISHED. YOU JUST SIT AND WAIT!

FINE. I'M USED TO IT.

BUT COCO...

SO KEEP A TIGHT LID ON WHAT YOU SAY.

SHE'S NOT A WITCH. NONE OF THE DOCTORS HERE ARE.

HER NAME'S SINOCIA. SHE'S A DOCTOR WHO TREATS WITCHES.

WHO'S SHE?

PLUNK.

ストン

AS PER THE PRINCIPLES, ALL WITCHES ARE FORBIDDEN FROM STUDYING MEDICINE.

THEY'RE NOT? WHY? ARE THERE ANY WITCHES WHO ARE DOCTORS?

?

THEY CLAIMED IT WAS TO HELP OTHERS, BUT SOON DABBLED IN EXPERIMENTS MOST VILE– USING *HUMAN* SUBJECTS.

IT LED TO WAR.

A FEW OF THEM SOUGHT IMMORTALITY, OR POWERS LIKE RAISING THE DEAD...

...WHAT HAPPENED AMONG THE WITCHES PRACTICING HEALINGCRAFT LONG, LONG AGO.

IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF...

AND THAT IS BECAUSE THEIR GOALS AND METHODS WERE DEEMED FAR TOO DANGEROUS TO ALLOW. OR SO IT'S SAID...

THE PACT STIPULATES NO SPELLS ARE TO BE CAST DIRECTLY ON THE BODY.

He only teaches 'em how to :cast...

DAMMIT, QIFREY...

IT'S A FUNDAMENTAL LESSON IN MAGIC HISTORY! EVERY SCHOOL-CHILD KNOWS THIS!

PRECISELY. FROM THEN ON, IT WAS DECIDED...

...THAT WITCHES MUST NEVER STUDY MEDICINE, AND THOSE AIMING TO BECOME DOCTORS MUST NEVER LEARN MAGIC!

THOSE SPELLS WERE MEANT TO HELP OTHERS...

...BUT SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY, THEY GOT TWISTED INTO THINGS THAT HURT PEOPLE.

BUT... IT'S A SAD STORY, IF YOU ASK ME.

PLUNK トン

THERE'S STILL SO MUCH WE NEED TO LEARN...

...TO MAKE SURE THINGS LIKE THAT NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN...

YEAH...

SHUP ストン

WE'VE DONE WHAT WE CAN.

HE'LL BE FINE.

...

PIT PAT. はのた

PIT PAT た た

Whew...

GOOD... THAT'S GOOD. THANKS.

THE WOUNDS WEREN'T AS DEEP AS I FEARED. AS LONG AS HE RESTS, HIS RECOVERY SHOULD BE SWIFT.

WE'VE SEDATED HIM FOR THE TIME BEING.

KIIYA

RINK

ERP...

YOU MOST CERTAINLY WILL NOT.

SHNAG ムンズ

I GUESS I'LL MAKE MYSELF AT HOME UNTIL HE WAKES UP.

Oh, my...

LORD BELDARUIT AWAITS YOU ALL.

CLAMOR ざわ

C'mon!

WELL, I'M NOT JUST GONNA LEAVE HIM!

...BUT I WILL *NOT* ALLOW MY PATIENT TO BE DISTURBED. HE'S NOT SEEING ANYONE! SO YOU SHOULD ALL PREPARE TO SETTLE IN, TOO!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS IS ABOUT...

FIP チョイ
FIP チョイ

Shhhhh...

BUT—

ZZZZZooo

THEY MUST BE EXHAUSTED. LET THEM REST.

Urk...

QIFREY'S. NOT MINE.

ARE THESE KIDS APPRENTICES?

I ASSUME IT'S NO TROUBLE FOR ME TO REST HERE AS WELL?

RIGHT AT HOME...

PET なで

PET なで

LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE SETTLED RIGHT IN...

SHF

VERY WELL. IF WE MUST.

FWSSHSH

BUT JUST TO ENSURE THERE'S NO ATTEMPT TO FLEE BACK TO YOUR ATELIER...

...I SHALL REMAIN HERE TO KEEP AN EYE ON ALL OF YOU.

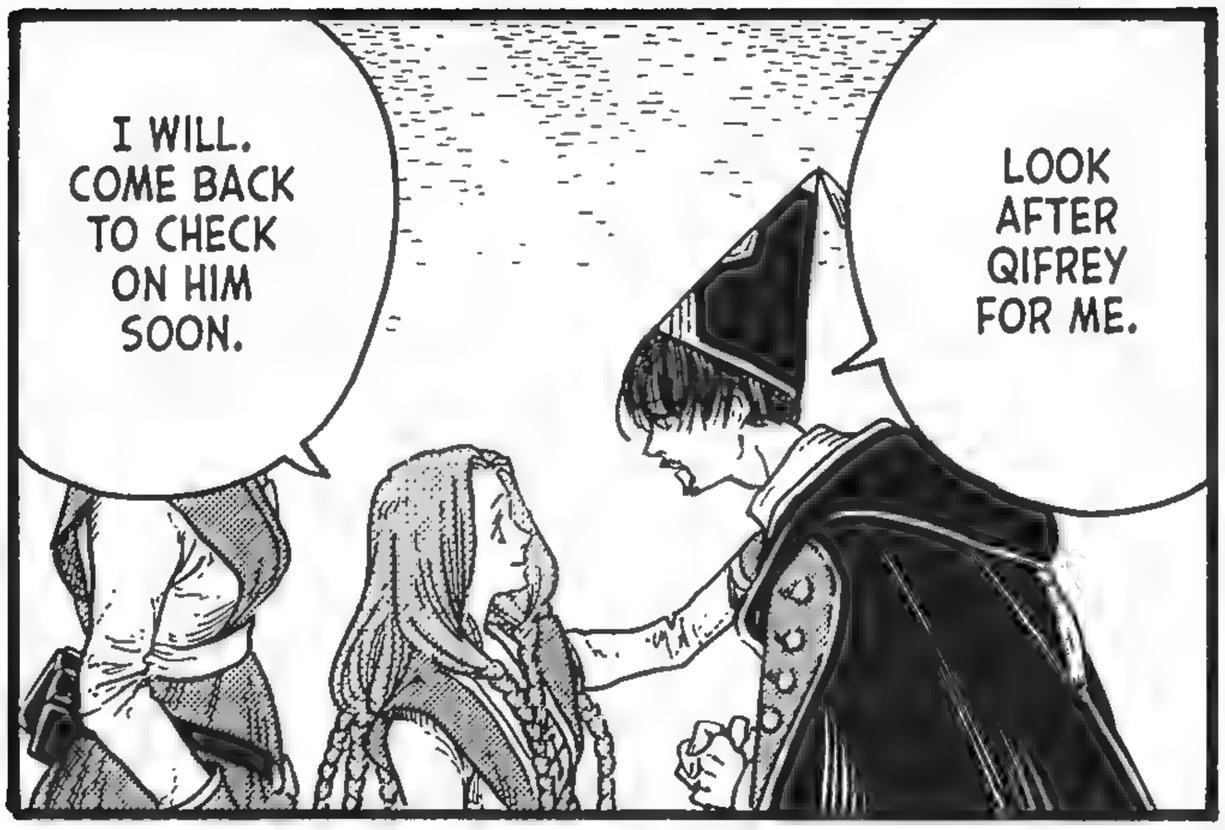
KLAK

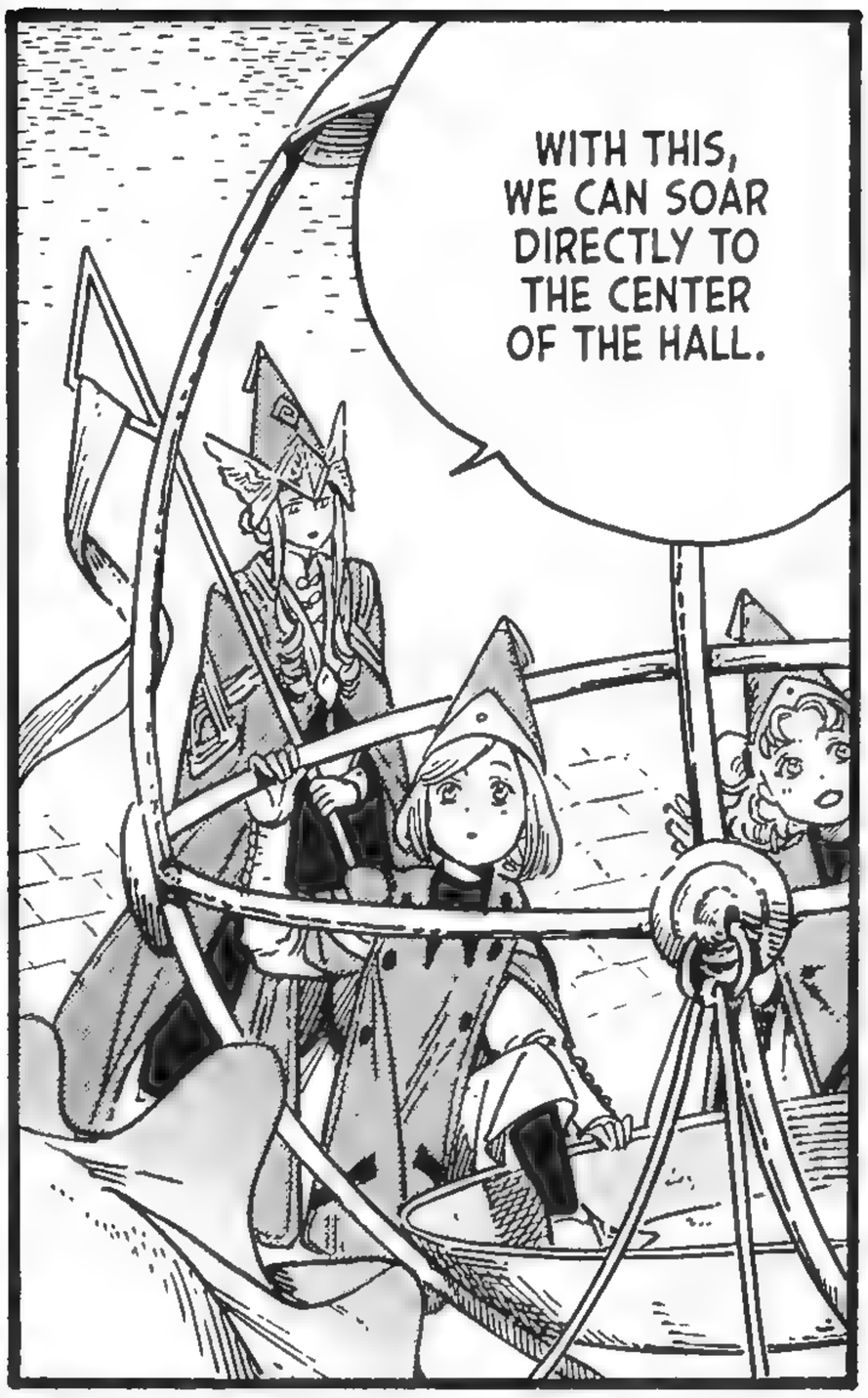
AHOOOO...

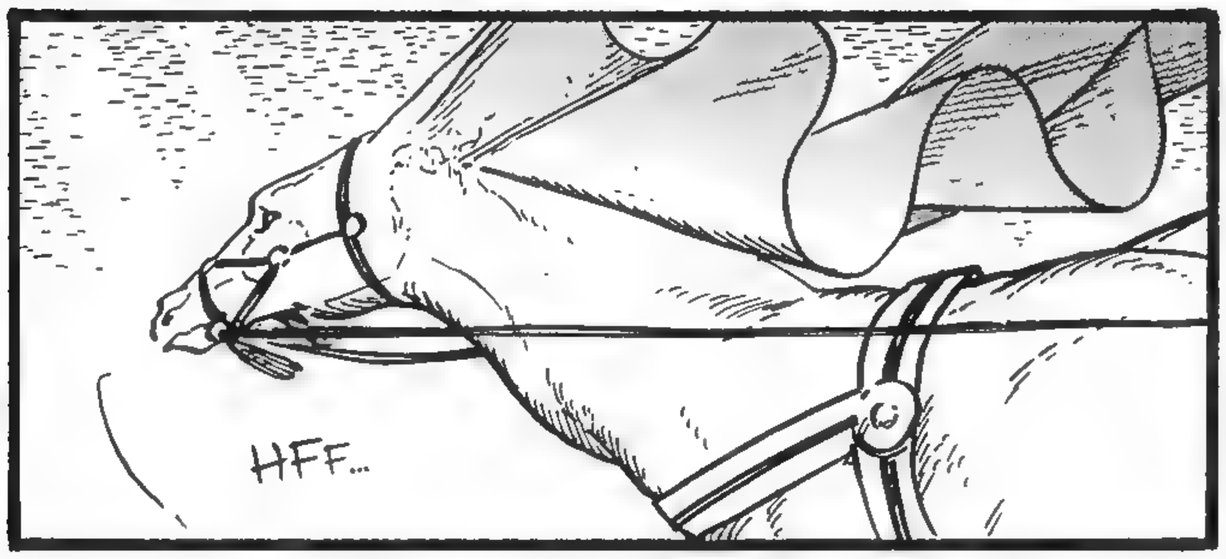
KHOOOO...

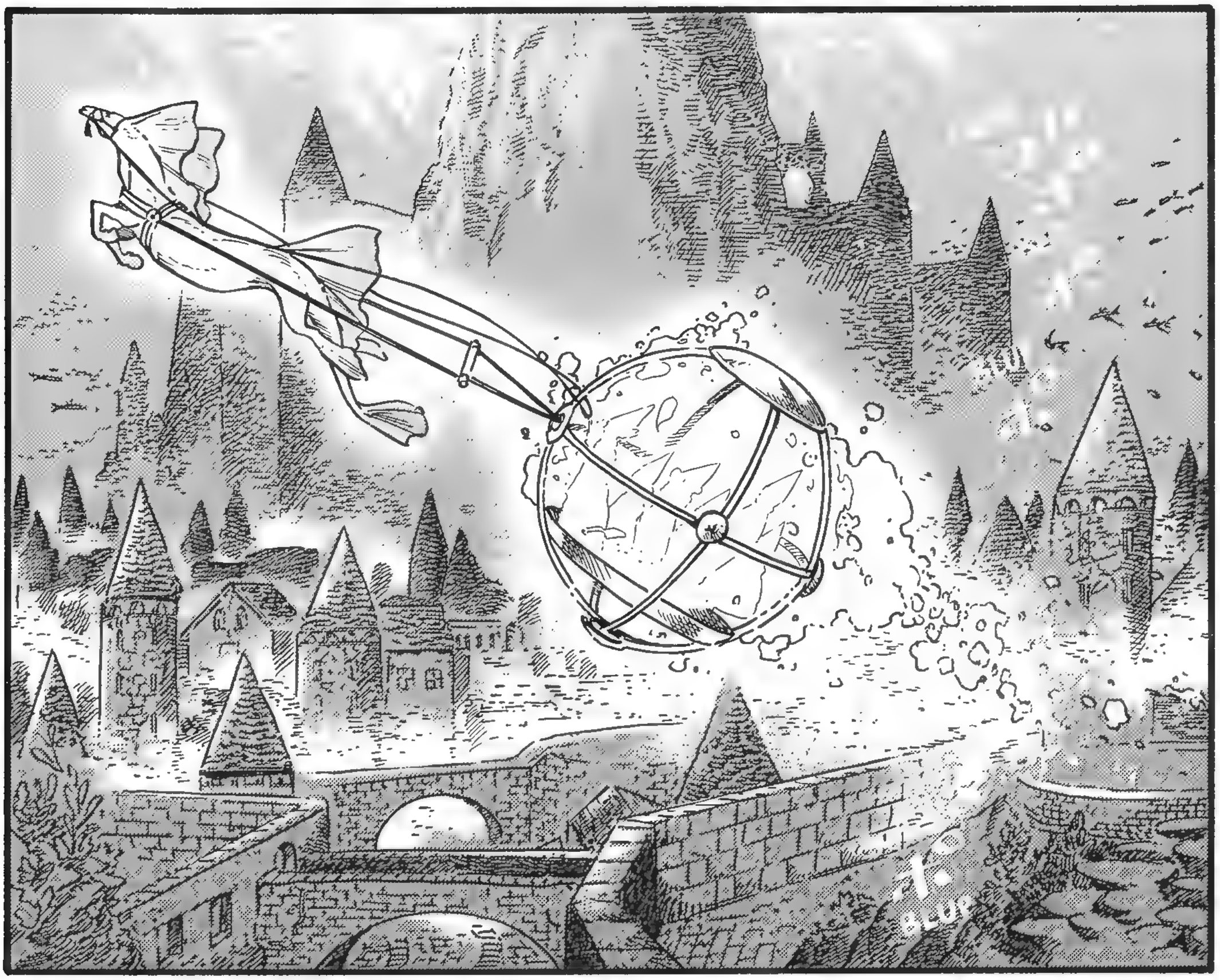
KHOOOOO...

IT'S A SIMPLE BUBBLE CARRIAGE. NOW HOP ABOARD.


I WILL. COME BACK TO CHECK ON HIM SOON.
LOOK AFTER QIFREY FOR ME.


WITH THIS, WE CAN SOAR DIRECTLY TO THE CENTER OF THE HALL.


HFF...



INCRED-IBLE...

A WHOLE OTHER WORLD INHABITED BY USERS OF MAGIC...

CLOSE! IT'S A SIGIL OF AERIFORMS.

HUH? IS THAT A SIGIL OF WIND?

Sigil of Aeriforms Used to generate air.

Sigil of Wind Used to direct the flow of air.

THE SIGIL'S PROBABLY THE SAME, BUT I DUNNO ABOUT THE SIGNS.

IS THIS THE SAME SPELL USED TO MAKE THE SEA-MIST?

AND STRAIGHT AHEAD IS OUR DESTINATION.

THE GREAT HALL OF WITCHES.

GLUP

BLUP

BLUP

BLUP

SPLISH

Z-ZZSH

HE HAS REQUESTED THE PRESENCE OF YOUR ENTIRE ATELIER.

OF COURSE, THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES PRECLUDE MASTER QIFREY.

LORD BELDARUIT AWAITS AT THE END OF THE HALL, IN THE ARGENTGARD.

PWUFF
PWUFF
YOU MAY WAIT HERE WITH ME, LITTLE ONE.
TROT
TROT
TROT
PW-PWEE...
PWEE...
I AM AFRAID THAT DOES NOT INCLUDE YOU.
PWEE?
UM...
MASTER OLRUGGIO? BEFORE WE GO IN...
...COULD YOU MAYBE TELL ME A LITTLE ABOUT...
...WHAT LORD BELDARUIT OF THE WISE IS LIKE?
HE'S A CREATOR OF MANY RENOWNED SPELLS...
...AND A MASTER WHO HAS TRAINED MANY OTHERS.
AS A WITCH, HE IS SIMPLY PHENOMENAL.

I SHOULD CLARIFY— HIS *MAGIC* IS WHAT'S PHENOMENAL...

Chapter 30 ♦ End

Witch Hat Atelier

Chapter 31

A GROVE OF SILVER-WOODS... IN THE *OCEAN?*
IS THAT WHAT I THINK IT IS?

HAIL, BELDARUIT THE WISE.
I, OLRUGGIO OF THE WATCHFUL EYES, HAVE COME AT YOUR BEHEST. WITH ME ARE THE APPRENTICES OF QIFREY.

!
ZWUMF

TEETER

HANDS TOGETHER AT YOUR LEFT SIDE! AND KNEEL!

Umm...

Uhh...

THAT'S ...

GLANCE

HU

SH

...LORD BELDARUIT OF THE WISE?

GWIP

ZHK ZHK

TWITCH

...

FWRSH

?!

IS THAT... SMOKE?

FWOOM

HE VANISHED!

DEAR, DEAR...

HUH?! LOOK!

MASTER OLLY?! WHAT'RE YOU—

Eeek!

BUT YOU HAD TO GO AND DISPERSE MY SMOKE-SCULPTURE.

ZZZ

FWUM!

A MIGHTY LEAP WITH DAZZLING PRISMATIC SPARKLE.

AND HERE I'D PLANNED SUCH A SHOW.

IMPATIENT AS EVER. YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT, OLRUGGIO.

COULDN'T YOU AT LEAST *TRY* FOR SOME GRAVITAS?

YOU ARE THE ONE WHO HASN'T CHANGED MUCH.

FIGURES. IT'S ALWAYS THIS KIND OF MAGIC WITH YOU.

...THAT *DEMANDS* SPECTACLE! A TEACHER'S FIRST AND FINEST ALLY IS THE JOY OF THE UNEXPECTED!

A POSITION ...

FOR YOU SEE, TEACHINGS CANNOT TAKE ROOT...

...IF THEY FAIL TO CAPTIVATE THE STUDENT.

T-

T-

TNP!

...STEWARD OVER RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN WITCH SOCIETY?

Y'KNOW. LIVING UP TO YOUR TITLE, BELDARUIT, THE WISE IN TEACHINGS ...

YOU SEE?!

YEAH... I GUESS I KINDA WOULD'VE ...

NOT CON-VINCED.

WELL, UM...

Z-ZANOOM

FLINCH

Well?! Well?!

YOU, MY DEAR!

SURELY YOU WOULD HAVE LIKED TO SEE A COPY OF ME SPRING THROUGH THE AIR, SPARKLE WITH ALL SEVEN COLORS OF THE PRISM, TWIRL ABOUT, AND FINALLY BURST INTO A MAGNIFICENT POOF OF SMOKE?

...AND VINANNA, THE WISE IN PRINCIPLES, METES OUT JUDGMENT UPON THOSE WHO TRANSGRESS.

ENGENDALE, THE WISE IN FRIENDSHIPS, CARRIES ON BOLSTERING OUR RELATIONS WITH NATIONS ABOVE THE SEA...

ALL THE WHILE, I LANGUISH IN MY GARDEN, WITH NARY A DUTY BEYOND LISTENING TO THOSE WHO SEEK MY COUNSEL.

MY TITLE IS BUT A BAUBLE.

くるっ, TWIRL

BUT THIS...*THIS* CONCERNS THE TESTS. AND THAT IS WITHIN MY PURVIEW.

!

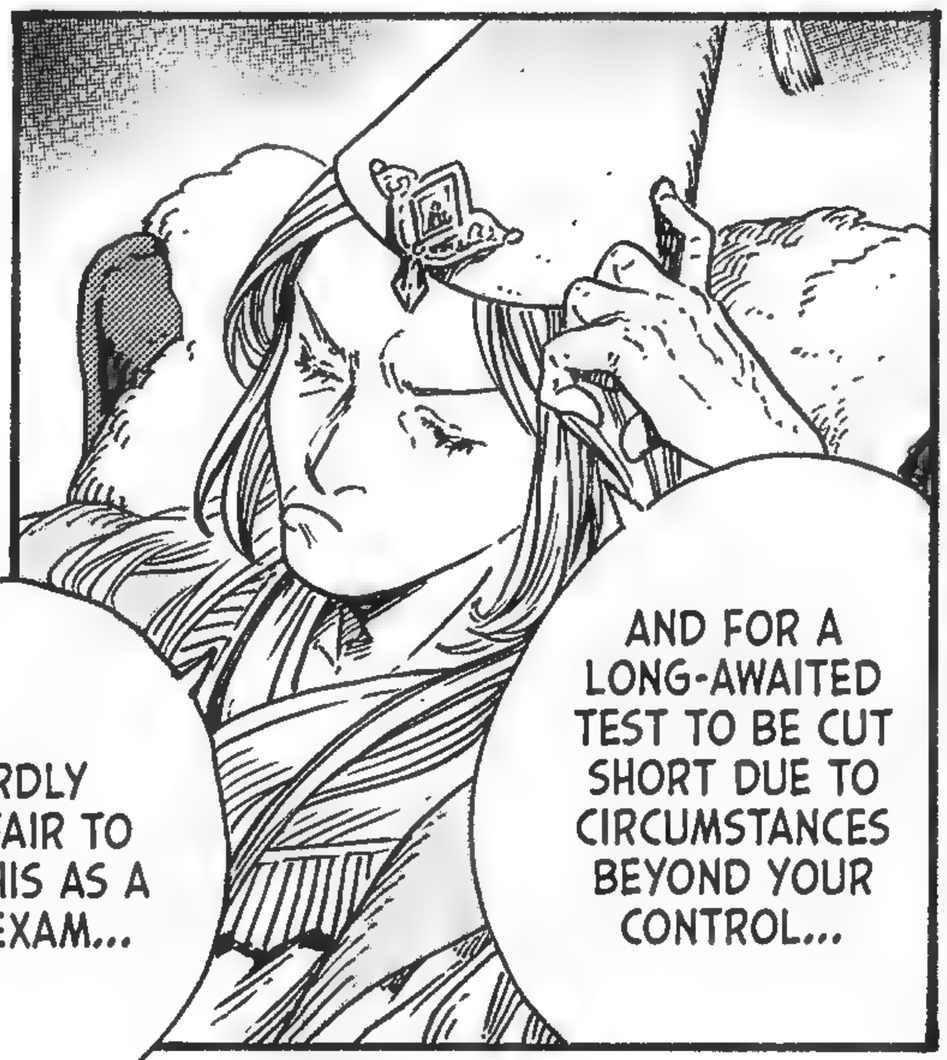
I AM MOST EAGER TO HEAR THEM, TO *WHATEVER* EXTENT YOU REMEMBER.

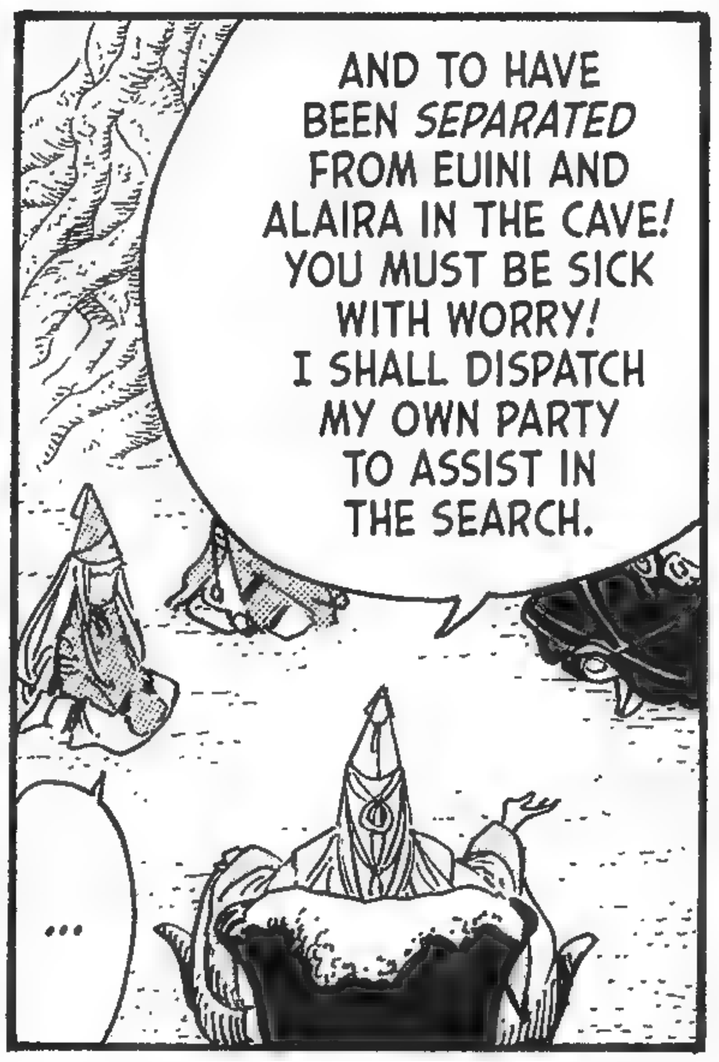
SO, PLEASE. DO SHARE THE DETAILS OF WHAT OCCURRED.

スト… PLUNK

...
DEAR, DEAR.
QUITE THE UN-PLEASANTNESS YOU'VE HAD TO ENDURE.

GASP
IT HARDLY SEEMS FAIR TO TREAT THIS AS A FAILED EXAM...


AND FOR A LONG-AWAITED TEST TO BE CUT SHORT DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND YOUR CONTROL...


AND TO HAVE BEEN *SEPARATED* FROM EUINI AND ALAIRA IN THE CAVE! YOU MUST BE SICK WITH WORRY! I SHALL DISPATCH MY OWN PARTY TO ASSIST IN THE SEARCH.
...

SURELY IT WOULD BE CRUEL...

...TO FORCE SUCH EAGER YOUNG MINDS TO WAIT FOR ANOTHER ATTEMPT.

TAP

A PROPOSAL.

WHAT IF *I* WERE TO PROVIDE ANOTHER CHANCE? A MAKE-UP TEST FOR YOU ALL, IF YOU WILL.

I... I *NEVER* COULD'VE DREAMED OF AN OPPORTUNITY LIKE THAT.

...BUT...

A TEST FROM THE WISE IN TEACHINGS HIMSELF?!

HOLD ON.

ALL OF US?

HUH?

...ONLY RICHEH AND AGOTT WERE TAKING THE TEST?

AS IN, TETIA AND COCO, TOO? YOU DO REALIZE...

...FROM ENTRANCE TO EXIT OF THE SERPENTBACK CAVE OF ROMONON, ALL WHILE ENSURING THE SAFETY OF THEIR FRIENDS AND TEACHERS?

THE SECOND TEST IS THE SINCERITY OF THE SHIELD, YES?

DID THESE TWO NOT ALSO DEMONSTRATE THEIR DEDICATION TO MAGIC AND SEE THEIR WAY...

RICHEH?

YEAH. UM... I MEAN... I CONCUR, WISE ONE.

WOULD YOU NOT AGREE?

SURELY ALL FOUR BEFORE ME DESERVE EQUAL RECOGNITION AS ILLUSTRIOUS YOUNG KNIGHTS!

I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE NOW TO HAVE SOMEONE YOU WANT TO HELP.

LET'S WORK TO-GETHER.

I WANNA GET TO THE TOWER OF TOMES, TOO.

WE'RE BOTH ANXIOUS TO MAKE PROGRESS, RIGHT, COCO?

GWIP

TH-

THANK YOU, RICHEH!

GULP

OF COURSE!

HRM-MM...

WHAT TO DO ...?

Hmm...

NOW THEN, AS TO THE *CONTENT* OF THE TEST...

YOU SURE THAT'S ALL RIGHT?

Seems. like a pretty big exception...

I CARE NOT FOR RIGID SYSTEMS! EDUCATION MUST BE FLEXIBLE!

THE DEADLINE— THREE DAYS HENCE! AND YOUR TASK...

...IS TO USE YOUR MAGIC TO SURPRISE ME!

YOUR TEST BEGINS ON THE MORROW!

IF YOU MANAGE TO ASTOUND ME EVEN *ONCE* OVER THE NEXT THREE DAYS, YOU WILL HAVE PASSED MY TEST!

...IN ANY PLACE! TRY AS MANY TIMES AS YOU LIKE!

ANY SPELL, LARGE OR SMALL, AT ANY TIME OF DAY...

ZWHR

WHR

WHR

WHR

WHR

SPARKLE

SPARKLEEE

YES! I'VE OUTSHINED MYSELF YET AGAIN!

AN INGENIOUS TEST! WHAT MARVELOUS FUN!

SPROIIING

チャ CRACKLE

チャッ CRACKLE

HEY, IT'S...!

ほの GAWK かん...

POP POP POP

FWOOOOSH

...WAS AN ILLUSION, TOO.

SO THIS ONE WE WERE TALKING TO...

RIGHT?

THAT GUY *NEVER* FOLLOWS THE BEATEN PATH.

HE SURE LEAVES AN IMPRESSION.

UM!

BUT...

UUU

BELDA

RUINS

AND THEN YOU *MEET* HIM, AND YOU CAN'T COMPREHEND HOW HE'D BE *CAPABLE* OF SUCH FEATS...

His magic is so amazing.

His magic, though...

WHEN IT COMES TO SPELLCASTING, HIS WORK IS SOMETHING ELSE. INCREDIBLE STUFF.

OH. YEAH. WELL, THAT'S BECAU—

...HE KINDA REMINDED ME OF MASTER QIFREY!

LIKE THAT PART ABOUT THE JOY OF THE UNEXPECTED.

GRRWL

GRRWL

GRRWL

!

?

I *WOULD* LIKE TO GET STARTED PREPARING FOR THE MAKE-UP TEST...

...BUT MY HAIR REALLY NEEDS A WASH. THE SEA-WIND MADE IT ALL CRUNCHY.

I'M STARVING, TOO! IT'S ALMOST LUNCHTIME ANYWAY!

I'M... *HUNGRI*-CHEH.

I WANNA EAT SOME-THING.

GRWLL

SST

AFTER YOU'VE HIT THE BATHS AND CAFETERIA, WE'LL GO CHECK IN ON QIFREY.

SURE. YOU GIRLS GRAB YOURSELVES A BITE AND A BATH.

...WHICH I JUST *DID*.

DO NOT FORGET. AS A WATCHFUL EYE, YOU HAVE A DUTY TO REPORT ANYTHING YOU'VE SEEN.

ABSO-LUTELY NOT.

AN APPRENTICE, WITH HIS WHOLE LIFE AHEAD OF HIM, IS STILL MISSING. PLEASE HELP US FIND HIM... IT FALLS TO US ADULTS TO TAKE ACTION.

スッ

SHF

BELDA-LOAFS

THAT'S A FAIR POINT...

For crying out loud...

I'M AFRAID LORD BELDARUIT TENDS TO BE LIGHT ON DETAILS WHEN RELAYING INFORMATION. WE'LL NEED YOU TO FILE A *WRITTEN* STATEMENT.

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I *REMEMBER.*

I GET IT.

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT.

OH, GEEZ...

WE RAN WHEN THE BRIMMED CAPS ATTACKED, AND AS THEY CHASED US, WE GOT SEPARATED FROM EUINI AND ALAIRA.

WE DON'T *REMEMBER* ANYTHING ELSE.

THAT'S ALL.

IT'LL BE FINE.

WE STILL HAVEN'T SAID *EVERYTHING* ABOUT EUINI. ARE WE GONNA BE OKAY?

WHISPER

YES, MASTER.

YOU GIRLS GO ON AHEAD.

WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED, WAIT FOR ME IN THE CAFETERIA.

I'LL BE BACK IN A BIT.

TUG

THAT'S RIGHT! THIS IS YOUR FIRST TIME, ISN'T IT?! I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND!

...AND A CAFETERIA, TOO!

PSEW!

WOW. BATHS FOR WITCHES...

GET READY, HERE COMES THE GRAND TOUR!

THE GREAT HALL IS A HOME FOR ALL WITCHES! EVEN US!

CHAPTER 31 ◆ END

Witch Hat Atelier

MAP OF THE GREAT HALL

WE ARRIVED HERE, AT THE WINDOWWAY PARLOR...

...AND THE MEDICAL SPIRE IS HERE, RIGHT ALONG THE EDGE OF THE SEA-MIST.

AND OVER HERE...

...IS WHERE YOU FIND THE ARGENTGARD.

WOW...

IT'S INSIDE DEEPWATER CASTLE, RIGHT AT THE CENTER OF THE GREAT HALL!

THIS IS THE SHOPPING GALLERY, INSIDE DEEPWATER CASTLE!

A LONG CORRIDOR FILLED WITH EVERY KIND OF SHOP THE GREAT HALL HAS TO OFFER!

SO...

...WHAT'S THIS PLACE WE'RE IN NOW?

YOU CAN ALSO FIND LIMITED-EDITION GREAT HALL MEMORABILIA!

YOU MEAN LIKE *SOUVENIRS*?!

WHOOA!

EACH ALCOVE HAS SHOPS FOR FOOD OR COMPONENTS...

...AND SOME EVEN SELL CUSTOM-MADE CONTRAPTIONS!

AND SEALS THAT GENERATE SMOKE-SCULPTURES OF THE MOST FAMOUS WITCHES THROUGHOUT HISTORY!

PULL IT OPEN AND IT'S A SEAL. TUG IT CLOSED AND IT'S A CAP!

AND WITCH-THEMED DRAW-STRING BAGS!

FOR EXAMPLE! PEN STANDS SHAPED LIKE THE CASTLE, WITH SEVEN SURROUNDING TURRETS WHICH ARE INKPOTS!

Enjoy!

One with honey, salted pork, and cheese!

AND PASTRIES SHAPED LIKE POINTED CAPS!

THEY TASTE EVEN BETTER STUFFED WITH YOUR FAVORITE FILLINGS!

SHE'S FINE. SHE'S JUST BEING COCO.

Ack! I had no idea there was this much official witch merchandise in the wooooorld!

WHAT'S WRONG, COCO? AREN'T YOU GONNA TRY ONE?

...3C3C3C Y

THE PLACE THEY'RE BORN AND RAISED, WHERE THEY BEGIN THEIR STUDIES.

FOR A LOT OF WITCHES, THE HALL IS THEIR FIRST HOME.

DID ALL OF YOU USED TO LIVE HERE?

YOUNG CHILDREN ATTEND CLASS FOR GENERAL STUDIES.

BETWEEN THE AGES OF ABOUT SEVEN TO TEN, YOU CHOOSE A MASTER AND ARE ACCEPTED AS AN APPRENTICE.

AS YOU GET MORE EXPERIENCED, YOU TAKE THE TESTS. AND IF YOU GRADUATE, YOU STRIKE OUT ON YOUR OWN.

...AND IT'S NICE BEING IN A FAMILIAR PLACE AND NEVER HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT INK OR PAPER.

ROOM AND BOARD ARE GUARANTEED AS LONG AS YOU'RE ABLE TO HELP OUT WITH OCCASIONAL REQUESTS ...

WOW. I HAD NO IDEA.

SO A LOT OF WITCHES END UP STICKING AROUND.

THE HALL OFFERS NEW GRADUATES A SINGLE-ROOM ATELIER.

SOME WITCHES MOVE AWAY TO SMALLER COMMUNITIES LIKE KALHN OR LITTLE HALLS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.

A SPECIAL REASON...

BUT NOT MANY CHOOSE TO LEAVE THE HALL WITHOUT SOME SPECIAL REASON.

I WONDER WHY HE CHOSE TO LIVE OUT THERE?

HIS ATELIER IS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE. IT'S EVEN A LITTLE WAYS FROM KALHN.

WHAT ABOUT MASTER QIFREY?

HEY! COCO!

COCO ...

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I HARDLY KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIM...

...THAT ONE TIME...?

WHAT ABOUT ...

DOES HE HAVE SOME SPECIAL REASON?

Presto! No more stains or frayed edges!

THE REPETITION SEAL WILL MAKE THEM AS GOOD AS NEW!

WHEN YOU'VE CHANGED INTO YOUR BATHING WRAP, DON'T FORGET TO PUT YOUR DIRTY CLOTHES INTO ONE OF THE WASHBARRELS.

THAT'S WHERE THE GREAT HALL *REALLY* SHINES!

JUST WAIT UNTIL WE GET TO THE BATHS.

THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING.

CAN MAGIC *GET* ANY MORE AMAZING?!

Amazing! I used to hand-wash laundry at home! It was hard work!

It gets better...?

Z-
ZSH

ZSH

ZSH

I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

IT'S A *BATH*, BUT IT'S LIKE WE'RE AT THE BEACH!

AND EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE OCEAN, THE WATER'S REALLY *WARM!*

SPLISH

SPLISH

WELL, THIS *IS* A BATH.

WELL, THIS *IS* THE OCEAN.

PLISH

OOF... THE WATER STINGS AGAINST ALL MY SCRATCHES ...

BUT I GUESS I'M JUST THANKFUL NOT TO HAVE SUFFERED ANYTHING WORSE.

YEAH. IT WAS INCRED-IBLE.

REMEMBER THE WAY HE CAST THOSE SPELLS?

OF COURSE ...

IT'S THANKS TO MASTER QIFREY THAT WE'RE ALL OKAY.

HEY, TETIA?

SPLISH

I WANNA HAVE MORE TO CHOOSE FROM. ONES I KNOW WELL...

...SO THEY'RE THERE WHEN I NEED THEM, AND I DON'T EVEN HAVE TO STOP AND THINK.

I...THINK I NEED TO LEARN HOW TO DRAW MORE KINDS OF SPELLS.

BUT IF IT GIVES ME A CHANCE TO STUDY SOME-THING NEW...

...I'M GONNA GIVE IT ALL I'VE GOT.

THIS MAKE-UP TEST FEELS LIKE IT'S A BIT TOO EARLY FOR ME.

...ME, FOUR.

I'LL TEACH YOU, IF YOU LIKE.

THANKS, YOU TWO!

ME, THREE.

THAT'S GREAT! ME, TOO! LET'S DO IT TOGETHER!

COCO...

I KINDA OWE YOU FOR THOSE SYLPH SHOES YOU DREW.

THEY'VE BEEN PRETTY HANDY.

WHAT?

I GUESS WE OUGHTA START WITH—

!

ENOUGH ALREADY! I'M JUST PAYING HER BACK!!

AGOTTA BE KIDDING.

AGOTTA LOVE IT!

DID AGOTT JUST *OPEN UP?!*

TH-TH-THANK YOU! THAT'S VERY KIND!

...HOW ABOUT WITH WATER SPELLS LIKE THAT ONE?

YOU KNOW HOW YOU ALWAYS GET THE BEST IDEAS WHEN YOU'RE SITTING IN THE BATH?

A WATER-SCULPTURE. A SCULPTING SPELL THAT USES WATER.

WHOA! WHAT *IS* THAT?! IT'S SO NEAT!

SPLISH

PLISH

PLISH

THAT KINDA STUFF HAPPENS *OFTEN...?*

YOU SEE IT HERE ALL THE TIME.

...WHO WANTED TO GET THEIR IDEA DOWN BEFORE IT SLIPPED THEIR MIND.

I GUARANTEE YOU THAT SPELL WAS SCRIBBLED BY SOME-ONE...

YEAH!

YOU GET AN IDEA OR SOMETHING?

OH!

WATER MAGIC, HUH...?

I WANNA TRY DRAWING IT TODAY!

I DID!

A GOOD ONE!

SOUNDS LIKE WE'RE IN FOR A SPECIAL STUDY SESSION UNTIL MASTER OLLY ARRIVES!

LET'S GO!

SEE? TOLD YOU! HAPPENS *ALL* THE TIME!

AGGGHHHHH

BUT... URMM... BY THE TIME WE GET OUT, I'LL HAVE PROBABLY FORGOTTEN...

BY THE TIME I GOT THERE, IT WAS ALL OVER.

...LIKE I'VE BEEN SAYING.

WHO *KNOWS* WHY?

MAYBE WE OUGHTA REEVALUATE OUR GUIDELINES ON TRAVELING IN SMALL GROUPS OUTSIDE THE HALL UNTIL WE FIGURE OUT WHAT THEY'RE AFTER.

THE KIDS SAID THEY WERE ATTACKED WITHOUT WARNING.

THE BRIMMED CAPS WERE JUST BEGINNING TO FLEE.

THE APPRENTICES HAD GOTTEN SEPARATED, AND QIFREY WAS INJURED.

ARE YOU SUGGESTING THIS IS *MY* FAULT?!

WH...?!

HOW *DARE* YOU!

OR AT THE VERY LEAST, MAKE SURE CHAPERONES AREN'T DUMPING THEIR APPRENTICES OFF FOR THE DAY.

I'M JUST SAYING WE ADULTS SHOULD'VE BEEN MORE CAREFUL, MORE VIGILANT.

THE FACT THAT WE WERE ATTACKED ISN'T ANYONE'S *FAULT.*

INCIDENTS DURING TESTS ARE ON THE *PROCTOR'S* HANDS!

SHE WAS THE ONE BESIDE THEM, AND *SHE* WAS THE ONE WHO FAILED TO RESOLVE THE SITUATION!

KINDLY SEE THEM TO THEIR OWNERS.

THESE ARE THE CAPS RECOVERED DURING OUR SEARCH.

JOLT ギョッ

HE'S RIGHT.

PEEK ぴよーっ

ETLAN. EKOH.

YES, GALGA?!

MOST HAD BEEN SCRAPED AWAY, LEAVING THEIR CONTENTS UNCLEAR. WE FOUND NO SIGN OF THE MISSING PERSONS.

WE ALSO FOUND TRACES OF NUMEROUS SEALS.

...THE MATTER IS THAT SERIOUS?

!

...THOUGH I'M HAPPY TO REPORT THAT WE FOUND NO *CORPSES*, EITHER.

...

OR PERHAPS... HE IS *UNWILLING.*

WE SUSPECT THE BOY EITHER FLED, OR WAS TAKEN.

BUT REGARDLESS, IT WOULD SEEM HE IS UNABLE TO MAKE HIS WAY BACK.

WHAT?!

BE SURE TO RETURN THAT CAP TO YOUR APPRENTICE WITH YOUR OWN HANDS.

KUKROW.

YOU JUST SAID THAT EUINI HAS YET TO BE FOUND, YES?

SURELY YOU CAN'T...

BUT... I...

AND YOU, AS HIS MASTER, SHALL BE LEADING THE SEARCH.

IT IS YOUR DUTY TO THE BOY.

THAT IS CORRECT.

I'M SORRY, WOULD YOU CARE TO REPEAT THAT?

ACK! OF COURSE I DO! IT'S JUST...

SURELY YOU REMEMBER THE PRIN-CIPLES?

...FAR BETTER SUITED FOR SUCH A TASK.

I... I MEAN, SURELY THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE...

O o

OF COURSE I AM! I'M MERELY—

HE'S *MISSING.* ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU'RE NOT EVEN WORRIED?

THIS IS YOUR PRECIOUS APPRENTICE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.

GLOM

LIFE IN THE HALL WOULD START TO FEEL *REAL* AWKWARD WITH TALK LIKE THAT GOING AROUND.

PAT

YOU KNOW, WORD SPREADS AWFUL FAST ABOUT MASTERS...

...WHO ABANDON THEIR PUPILS.

SHOULD'VE ANSWERED LIKE THAT IN THE FIRST PLACE.

Much better.

BOW

BOW

BOW

I, KUKROW, HUMBLY ACCEPT THIS DUTY! I SHALL DEDICATE MYSELF FULLY TO THE SEARCH FOR MY MISSING APPRENTICE!!

Whew...

EASTHIES IS OUT TODAY, HUH?

BUT SINCE HE'S AWAY, I GOTTA DO WHAT I CAN.

HE GOT OFF LIGHT. THAT WAS NOTHING COMPARED TO A GLARE FROM EAS.

WAS IT REALLY NECESSARY TO BE SO MENACING?

!

MISTER OLRUGGIO.

AS IT STANDS, WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN...

...WHAT THE BRIMMED CAPS MIGHT ATTEMPT NEXT.

THE KNIGHTS MORALIS WILL INVESTIGATE THOROUGHLY.

WE SHALL REVIEW OUR GUIDELINES REGARDING THE SECURITY AND ACCOMPANIMENT OF WITCHES WHEN CONDUCTING BUSINESS OUTSIDE THE HALL.

WE SHALL ALSO INCREASE OUR PATROLS AND COUNSEL OTHERS TO ACT WITH AN ABUNDANCE OF CAUTION.

I WOULD ASK THAT YOU NOT NEGLECT YOUR RESPON-SIBILITIES.

PLEASE BE SURE TO REPORT SWIFTLY ON ANY ANOMALY OF WHICH YOU BECOME AWARE.

NEVER BEFORE HAVE THEY INTERFERED IN A TEST OR CONDUCTED OPEN ASSAULTS.

THIS GOES FAR BEYOND THEIR USUAL QUIET, CLANDESTINE VIOLATION OF THE PRINCIPLES.

...

DID I MANAGE TO THROW THEM OFF...?

THANK MY LUCKY STARS EASTHIES WASN'T HERE TODAY.

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO FILL QIFREY IN ON THE STORY...

BUT ALAIRA'S A GOOD LEAGUE OR TWO BEYOND HIM.

AT LEAST KUKROW'S NOT AN ISSUE.

!!

JOLT

!!

!!

WHAT'S THAT ABOUT EASTHIES?

UTOWIN.

UTOWIN OF GHODREY, CITY OF MAGIC IN THE NORTH.

WERE YOU *FOLLOWING* ME?!

W...

UM...

FWISH

FWISH

FWISH

FWISH

HAH! GUYS THAT END UP IN THE KNIGHTS MORALIS AREN'T USUALLY THE MEMORABLE ONES.

SORRY... I DON'T REALLY RECOGNIZE YOU...

YOU'RE FROM GHODREY? ME, TOO.

OF COURSE THE TOWN'S WONDER-CHILD WOULDN'T RECOGNIZE *ME.*

WHAP

WAS JUST *DYING* TO TRADE THAT PEN IN FOR A SPEAR, Y'KNOW?

I WAS NEVER TOO GOOD AT SITTING AT A DESK, TOILING OVER DETAILS ON SOME SEAL...

SEEMS TO ME...LIKE YOU KNOW MORE OF THE STORY THAN YOU'RE LETTING ON.

SO...

...OLRÜGGIO OF THE TORCH...

SH

WR

IL

WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?

JUST THE FACT THAT YOUR ATELIER...

...KEEPS PRODUCING A LOT OF *FIRSTS.*

WOULDN'T BE SMART TO IGNORE 'EM IF THEY'RE SIGNS OF A THREAT TO COME— ONE THAT COULD SHAKE THE FOUNDATIONS OF OUR WORLD.

...
'COURSE
...

...THERE'S NO WAY A WATCHFUL EYE WOULD EVER LIE, RIGHT?

BEAM
ぱっ！

FOR THE SAKE OF MAGIC AND ORDER THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

JUST LET US KNOW IF YOU HAPPEN TO REMEMBER ANYTHING.

NOT FOR THE SAKE OF *WITCHES?*

FOR THE SAKE OF *MAGIC,* HUH?

...

HE'S BACK! HEY! MASTER OLRUGGIO!

LOOK!

SORRY TO KEEP YOU W— WHOA, THERE.

HEY. THERE YOU ARE.

BUT, UH... WHAT'S *THAT?*

FRSPLRT

KSPLRSH

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GOING ALL OUT ON THIS.

HEHE ...

IT'S...

I JUST WANTED TO TRY MAKING AN ICEPACK THAT STAYS COLD.

NOOOOO!

DON'T LOOK! IT ISN'T FINISHED YET!

FLAP

FLAP

FLAP

KINDA DELVING INTO THE *ABSTRACT* ...

AND WATER IN STREAMS AND RIVERS ALWAYS SEEMS TO FEEL SO NICE AND COOL...

...SO I HAD THE IDEA OF AN ICE PACK MADE FROM RUNNING WATER.

HE'S PROBABLY ACHING FROM ALL HIS INJURIES...

I THOUGHT MAYBE MASTER QIFREY COULD USE IT.

FUNNILY ENOUGH, POWERFUL, UNCHECKED MAGIC...

ARE YOU GOING FOR *FLOWING* WATER OR *EXPLODING* WATER?

Gaaah...

AND...

...THIS IS IT, HUH?

SHWM

...TENDS TO BE EASIER TO DRAW THAN GENTLE, PLEASANT SPELLS WITH THEIR INTRICATE LINES.

Ooh...!

IT CALMED DOWN!

SNAPPITY ぱちぱち

YOUR IDEA'S SOLID, SO YOU JUST GOTTA ...

...ADJUST IT TO GET THE FLOW RIGHT.

SNAP てき

JUST ONE SIGN IN THE CENTER.

KEEP IT SMALL.

てき SNAP

ぱち SNAPPITY

GOT IT!

SIGNS OF A THREAT TO COME?

WHERE DO THEY GET AN ABSURD NOTION LIKE THAT?

POING POING

WE GOTTA TAKE THIS TO MASTER QIFREY!

LET'S HURRY!

I DID IT! HOORAY!

IT'S WORKING!

GL

EAM

YEAH. SOUNDS GOOD.

!

MASTER OLLY! QUIT TRYING TO TURN EVERY-THING INTO A SALE!

CHATTER おいの

CHATTER おい

HUH?!

Y'KNOW, IF WE COULD JUST COVER THE SEAL UP A BIT MORE, WE COULD SELL IT AS A CONTRAPTION ...

Hmm...

おいの CHATTER

おい CHATTER

おいの CHATTER

BUT MONEY'S IMPORTANT, SO THAT'S A GOOD THING...

AGOTT ARKLAUM? REALLY?

CHECK IT OUT, LOROGA.

I THINK THAT'S AGOTT.

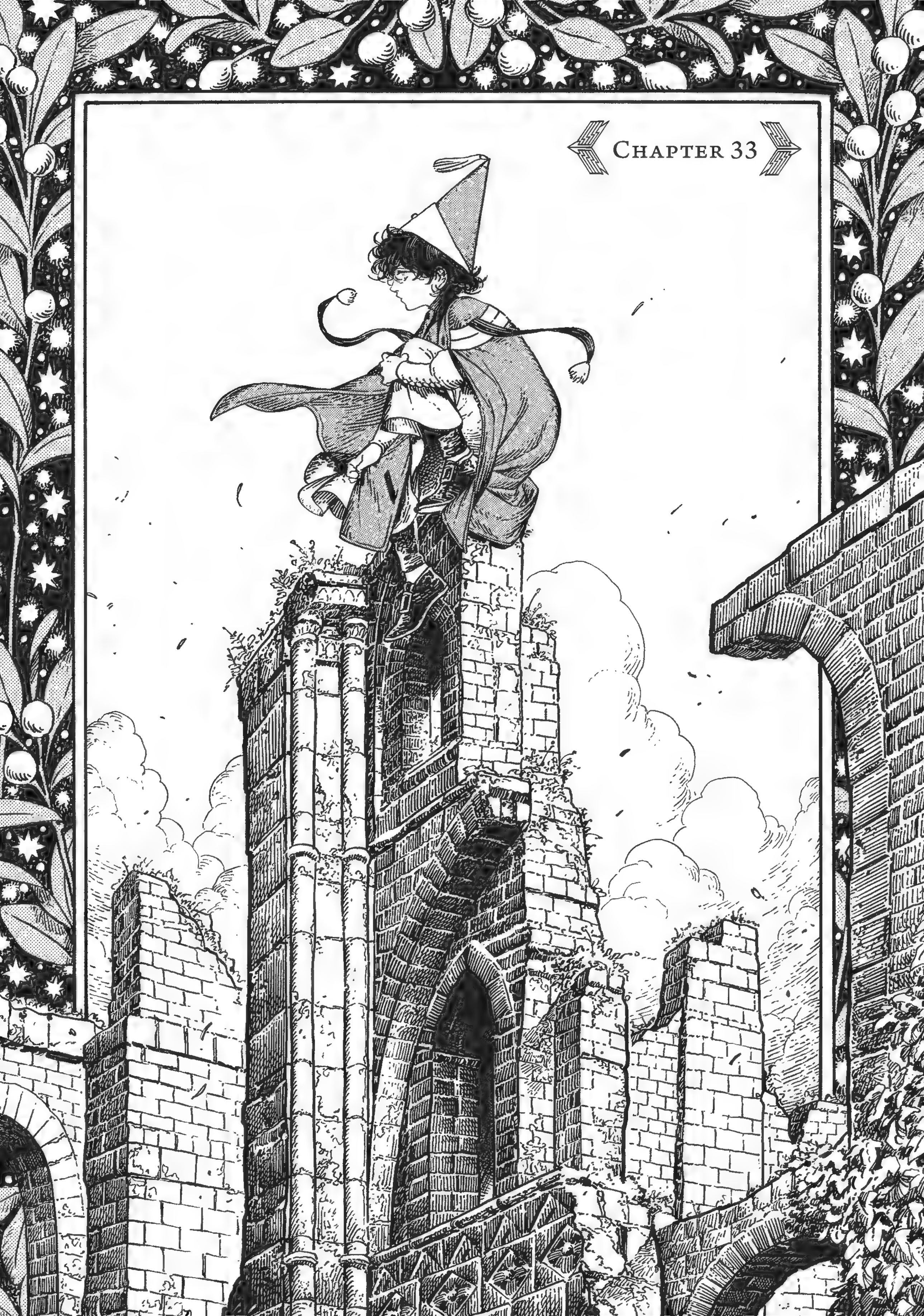
YOU KNOW, OF THE LIBRARIAN'S HOUSE...

THE DROPOUT WHO COULDN'T EVEN SECURE A SPOT IN HER OWN HOUSE?

WHAT'S *SHE* DOING BACK AT THE GREAT HALL...?

Witch Hat Atelier

Chapter 33



IT SURE FEELS STRANGE...

...WAKING UP AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN...

HWUP

FLIT

GOOD MORNING, COCO.

DID YOU SLEEP WELL?

YES! THANK YOU.

IT'S VERY KIND OF YOU TO LET US STAY IN THE HEALING SPIRE, MISS SINOCIA.

OH, IT'S NOTHING.

TA-DUUM

GWIM

GWIM

THANKS TO ALL THE ENCHANTED TOOLS AROUND HERE...

...THE CHORES GET DONE IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE.

FWUSH

IT LEAVES US WITH PLENTY OF EXTRA SPACE AND TIME.

TA-DMP

SHWRRR

RIL

IL

RR IL

FWSH

Wooooow...!

MAGIC'S ALWAYS MAKING OUR LIVES EASIER...

...SO WE'RE JUST HAPPY FOR THE CHANCE TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK.

AND BESIDES ...

GLANCE

...

...I FIGURED YOU'D ALL FEEL A BIT BETTER IF YOU COULD STAY NEAR QIFREY.

YOUR TEST BEGINS TODAY, RIGHT?

TURN THAT FROWN UPSIDE DOWN!

CLAMP

ガシッ

NOW, NOW! ENOUGH OF THAT FRETTING!

...RIGHT!

YOU'VE GOTTA FOCUS ON BEING A WITCH!

LEAVE THE DOCTORING TO SINOCIA, BEST CARETAKER UNDER THE SEA!

ぴょこっ！
PEEK

NOT VERY MANY, HONESTLY ...

HOW ABOUT YOU?

ANY IDEAS?

I COULDN'T COME UP WITH MUCH, EITHER...

WE'VE GOTTA FIND SOME WAY TO SURPRISE LORD BELDARUIT USING MAGIC OVER THE NEXT THREE DAYS.

I DON'T THINK THAT'S SOMETHING TO BRAG ABOUT.

IF ANYTHING, IT'D BE HARD TO FIND A SPELL THAT *DOESN'T* LEAVE ME FEELING AMAZED!

OF COURSE, I'M CONFIDENT *I* CAN BE SURPRISED BY ANY KIND OF MAGIC.

MUA HA HA

HA HA

...DEMONSTRATING A DEGREE OF SKILL BEYOND WHAT HE EXPECTS OF US.

ULTIMATELY, SURPRISING HIM IS REALLY ABOUT...

ZSH

I'M GOING FIRST. WATCH THIS.

I'VE KNOWN EXACTLY WHAT TO DO SINCE OUR VISIT YESTERDAY...

...WHEN I SAW THAT UNEVEN PATH OF SAND LEADING OVER THE WATER!

HRM?

ZR

SH

IT'S THE MOST DIFFICULT SPELL I'VE LEARNED TO DATE...

...AND IT HAPPENS TO BE PERFECT FOR THE ARGENTGARD!

ZWUSSSH

SHE MUST'VE BEEN WATCHING CLOSELY WHEN HE DREW THE SEAL!

AMAZING! SHE'S DONE IT FOR SURE!

THAT'S THE BRIDGE OF SAND MASTER OLRUGGIO CAST AT THE STAIRCASE RIVER!

HRMMM...

A FINE DISPLAY, BUT IT DOES NOT INSPIRE AWE.

AND SADLY, NECESSITY BREEDS FAMILIARITY.

THERE'S A NEED FOR SPELLS LIKE THESE.

WHIRL

!!!!

WHEN DID HE GET BEHIND US?!

L-LORD BELDA-RUIT?!

WELL...

ZHK

HOW ABOUT A SPELL LIKE *THIS*?!

HOW ADOR-ABLE!

PWUFF

PWUFF

PA-PWUFF

PWUFF

IF A BRIDGE WON'T WORK, TAKE FLOWERS MADE OF SAND!

HOW FASCI-NATING!

SHWIP

SHWIP

SHWIP

SHWI

SHWIP

OR SPARKLY CRYSTAL RIBBONS!

FLASH

...YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE *LAVISH!* SOMETHING LIKE *THIS!*

IF WE'RE DOING THIS...

BUT I REQUIRE SOMETHING MORE BREATH-TAKING!

DUN DUN

LO SPROIIING!

I'VE OUTSHINED MYSELF ONCE AGAIN!

AWESTRUCK BY MY OWN GENIUS!

OR AS I LIKE TO CALL IT, THE PLAY-LAND OF SAND.

BELDA-DRAWS

DID HE JUST MIX ALL OUR SPELLS INTO A SAND-CASTLE SLIDE?!

D...

WHOOO

OA

IF ONLY YOU'D BEEN THE ONES TO TRY. NOW I FEAR THE NOVELTY IS GONE.

...THAT MELDED THIS MARVEL.

AH, BUT NOW I'VE GONE AND DONE IT. 'TWAS MY OWN TWO HANDS...

POP

POP

POP

TAKE HEART, YOUNG ONES!

I EAGERLY AWAIT...

...THE CRISP WINDS OF CHANGE YOU'LL SURELY STIR!

I'M STARTING TO THINK ...

...THIS TEST ISN'T AS STRAIGHT-FORWARD AS IT SEEMS.

ANOTHER SMOKE-SCULPTURE?

AFTER ALL THAT RUNNING AROUND TODAY, I'M *EXHAUSTED!*

ばふぅ

FWUUU

GAAAH! MY FEET ARE DONE FOR!

MP

THERE ONE SECOND, GONE THE NEXT!

AND LORD BELDARUIT! YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHERE HE IS, AND THEN POOF!

FWAP ばた

FWAP ばた

THE GREAT HALL REALLY IS JUST STAIRWAY AFTER STAIRWAY. WHAT A WORKOUT!

...IT'S HARD TO FEEL SURPRISED ANYMORE.

I GUESS IF YOU'RE SURROUNDED BY AMAZING MAGIC EVERY DAY...

...AND SHOW OFF WHATEVER SPELL YOU HAD, HE JUST TAKES IT AND MAKES IT BETTER.

HE'S UNSTOP-PABLE.

Uh-huh! Uh-huh!

EVEN WHEN YOU *DO* FIND HIM...

DOESN'T COUNT. IT'S GOTTA BE A SPELL.

SO WE DESIGN A SPELL THAT SHOUTS "SURPRISE" !!!

SURPRISE!

"Pweeee!"

WHAT IF WE SNEAK UP NEXT TO HIM AND SHOUT "SURPRISE" ?

HE CAN REDESIGN NEW SPELLS HE SEES ON THE FLY, HUH?

HE'S NOT GONNA GIVE US A PASS FOR ANYTHING ORDINARY, THAT'S FOR SURE.

YEAH. THE THREE WISE ONES ARE VERSED IN EVERY KIND OF MAGIC THERE IS.

HM. IF YOU ASK ME, THE FACT THAT HE ALTERED YOUR SPELLS...

...MEANS THAT WHAT YOU STARTED WITH WASN'T THE KIND OF THING HE'S LOOKING FOR.

HOW EXACTLY DID HE CHANGE YOUR STUFF?

UM, WELL...

OUR... PATRON?

THAT'S RIGHT. SURE, IT'S A TEST, BUT EVERY SPELL HAS A RECIPIENT. SOMEONE IT'S INTENDED FOR.

WHEN YOU START TAKING REQUESTS FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD, YOU FIND YOURSELF DRAWING ALL SORTS OF NEW THINGS.

TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT YOUR PATRON. LEARN WHO HE IS, SO YOU CAN GIVE HIM THE SPELL HE'S REALLY AFTER.

BUT WE ONLY HAVE THREE DAYS TO WORK WITH!

W...

WASTE A WHOLE DAY JUST *WATCHING* HIM?!

HOW ABOUT SPENDING TOMORROW FOCUSED LESS ON PRESENTATION AND MORE ON REFLECTION?

A REAL WITCH IS *ALWAYS* CASTING.

TAP

I DIDN'T TELL YOU NOT TO *DRAW.*

...THEN UP HERE.

IF NOT WITH THE HANDS...

HOHO...!

STARE

What a weirdo...

ギョ, JOLT

?

WE SPENT OUR FIRST DAY DRAWING PAGE AFTER PAGE AND GOT NOWHERE...

SO NOW WE'RE USING DAY TWO TO WATCH LORD BELDARUIT IN SHIFTS...

THE NEXT DAY

SLINK

TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP

HOORAY!

TMP TMP

HEY! IT'S LORD BEL!

TMP

CAST A SPELL, LORD BEL!

...

DO THE GROWN-UPS WHO KNOW A LOT MORE ABOUT MAGIC THAN ME REALLY LOSE THEIR SENSE OF WONDER?

AND IF THEY DO, THEN WHAT KIND OF MAGIC...

...COULD LORD BELDARUIT POSSIBLY EXPECT FROM US?

HEY. YOU.

I RECOGNIZE THAT SEAFOAM-COLORED CAP.

YOU BELONG TO THE SAME ATELIER AS AGOTT, DON'T YOU?

IS IT TRUE THAT SHE FAILED HER SECOND TEST...

...AND NOW SHE'S GETTING SOME SPECIAL CHANCE TO MAKE IT UP?

HMPH.

SOUNDS THE SAME TO ME.

SHE DIDN'T ACTUALLY FAIL, THOUGH. IT WAS MORE LIKE...

...SHE GOT INTERRUPTED PARTWAY THROUGH.

HUH?! UM...

?

THE FIRST TWO AREN'T MUCH MORE THAN A FORMALITY, ANYWAY.

PRETTY PATHETIC IF SHE'S STRUGGLING TO PASS SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

'COURSE, SHE *WAS* REJECTED AS AN APPRENTICE OF THE HOUSES.

BUT AGOTT'S AN APPRENTICE RIGHT NOW.

SHE'S STUDYING UNDER MASTER QIFREY.

WELL, HE'S NOT FROM ONE OF THE HOUSES OF THE FIRST APPRENTICES, NOW IS HE?!

Unbelievable...

DON'T THEY TEACH YOU *ANYTHING* OUT THERE IN THE STICKS?

YOU KNOW, HOUSES LIKE ARKLAUM AND ROENTON. THE FIRST HOUSES—THE ONES BEQUEATHED KNOWLEDGE AFTER THE DAY OF THE PACT.

THE HEAD ALWAYS TAKES ON A RELATIVE AS AN APPRENTICE, TO KEEP THE LEGACY GOING.

SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE PRETTY OUT OF THE LOOP...

...SO I'LL GIVE YOU A LITTLE ADVICE.

KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM AGOTT ARKLAUM.

...SHOWED UP AT HER FORMAL DEBUT WITH A STOLEN SPELL. SHE WAS *SO* DESPERATE TO WIN THE FAVOR OF THE HEAD OF HER HOUSE...

...AND BE ACCEPTED AS AN APPRENTICE ...

BECAUSE *AGOTT*...

MRK

THAT'S *MEAN.* WHY WOULD YOU SAY THAT?!

...THAT SHE TRIED TO PASS OFF SOMEONE ELSE'S MAGIC AS HER OWN.

IF YOU'RE STUDYING AT THE SAME ATELIER, YOU OUGHTA BE CAREFUL NOT TO LET YOUR GUARD—

FWIP

?!

AGOTT WOULD *NEVER*—

SHE WOULD, AND SHE *DID!*

THOSE WITHOUT TALENT CAN ONLY RELY ON PERSIS-TENCE.

AGOTT! WAIT!

DASH

SWAY

AGOTT!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!

WHAT?

SO LOROGA TOLD YOU, HUH?

PAUSE

DO YOU BELIEVE HIM?

WHAM

OF COURSE NOT.

WHY NOT?! HOW CAN YOU...

...SOUND SO *CERTAIN?*

BECAUSE ...

B...

HE'S... HE'S TALKING ABOUT *YOU...*

WHAT DOES *THAT* MEAN?!

I'VE SEEN ALL THE SEALS YOU COME UP WITH.

I WATCH YOU ALL THE TIME, WHEN YOU'RE BUSY DRAWING.

I MEAN...

THAT'S... THAT'S HOW I *KNOW.*

YOU'D BE THE *LAST* PERSON TO FORGIVE THE AGOTT WHO DID THAT.

I *KNOW* IT.

AGOTT...?

<3 !
TWIRL

I'LL ONLY SAY THIS ONCE.

...TOO BAD YOUR FAITH IN ME CAN'T CHANGE ANY-THING NOW.

I'LL BECOME A LIBRARIAN ON MY OWN MERIT.

I DON'T NEED MY FAMILY CONNECTIONS. I'LL SHOW THEM.

GWIP 7!!

...AND FACE THE CHALLENGE WITH MY SKILL ALONE.

I'LL PUT IN THE WORK...

I'M GOING TO PROVE MYSELF.

SO THAT'S WHY I'M GONNA —

AGOTT!

!

...WILL START CHASING AFTER ME, *BEGGING ME* TO COME BACK.

I'LL BE SO SUCCESSFUL THAT THE SAME HOUSE THAT DOUBTED ME...

YOU'RE A GENIUS!

WHAT?!!

HUP

IT'S JUST LIKE MASTER OLRUGGIO SAID!

WE GOTTA THINK OF LORD BELDARUIT LIKE OUR PATRON!

IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE SARCASTIC?!

N-NO! I'M TALKING ABOUT TODAY'S TEST!

FWUM

H-HANG ON! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!

YOU'RE NOT MAKING ANY SENSE!

I DON'T UNDER-STAND A WORD YOU'RE SAYING!

FWOOM

THE KIND OF MAGIC LORD BELDARUIT WANTS TO SEE!

I THINK I'VE FIGURED IT OUT!

FIGURED OUT *WHAT?*

Chapter 33 ♦ End

Witch Hat Atelier

Chapter 34

I THINK I'VE FIGURED IT OUT!

THE KIND OF MAGIC LORD BELDARUIT WANTS TO SEE!

HOP

LISTEN, AGOTT!

UM... SO IT GOES LIKE THIS...

IT'S YOUR IDEA. YOU CAME UP WITH IT.

THERE'S NO NEED TO TELL ME.

ピタッ FIP

STOP.

SST

HMMM ...

I DUNNO ...

THIS IS A TEST, AFTER ALL.

YOU CAN USE IT FOR YOURSELF.

...OR THAT WE CAN'T WORK TOGETHER. RIGHT?

IT'S NOT LIKE HE TOLD US...

...WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO SHARE IDEAS...

REMEMBER HOW MASTER OLLY...

...TOLD US TO THINK OF HIM AS A PATRON?

!

I'M STILL NOT VERY GOOD AT DRAWING.

I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH SKILL YET TO TURN MY IDEAS INTO SEALS.

TNK

AND THAT MEANS...

...I PROBABLY WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SATISFY LORD BELDARUIT!

S...

SATISFY ...?

THE GOAL IS TO SURPRISE LORD BELDARUIT WITHIN THREE DAYS' TIME.

...IS THAT TINGLY, BUBBLY FEELING THAT FILLS YOU UP IN THE MOMENTS JUST *AFTER* YOU'VE WITNESSED SOMETHING WONDERFUL AND NEW.

...IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT WHAT HE'S *REALLY* AFTER...

BUT WHEN I WAS OBSERVING HIM...

...I THINK PUTTING OUR HEADS TOGETHER ...

...IS THE BEST WAY TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING FUN AND SURPRISING!

AND IF THAT'S WHAT WE'RE AFTER...

I AGREE WITH COCO!

...BUT NOW YOU WANNA MAKE THE TEST ABOUT *FUN?* ARE YOU—

SO... I GET YOUR POINT ABOUT SHARING IDEAS...

REMEMBER, GOOD IDEAS ALONE AREN'T ENOUGH TO MAKE GOOD MAGIC. IT'S A MIX OF...

TETIA! RICHEH! YOU'RE HERE!

IDEAS...

TECHNIQUE ...

ORIGI-NALITY...

...AND PURPOSE— ALL FOUR HAVE TO JOIN HANDS AND WORK TOGETHER!

WHOMP

AND THERE'S ONE MORE THING THAT'S *ABSOLUTELY* CRUCIAL TO KEEP IN MIND!

WITCHES HAVE TO CONSIDER, ABOVE ALL ELSE, JUST EXACTLY *WHO* IS ON THE RECEIVING END OF THE SPELL!

YEAH, I'LL ADMIT YOU'VE GOT A POINT, BUT—

...YOU JUST CAN'T COMPREHEND HAVING FUN WITH A TEST?

...IT'S EXACTLY THE KIND OF THING COCO WOULD COME UP WITH.

Hey! I want in!

WHATEVER HA— ARE YOU *KIDDING* ME?

I'M ON BOARD.

THERE'S ONE DAY LEFT. WHATEVER HAPPENS, HAPPENS.

SHE'S TREATING IT NOT AS A QUESTION OF DEMONSTRATING SKILL...

...BUT OF SATISFACTION. GIVING THE RECIPIENT WHAT THEY WANT.

I'VE NEVER CONSIDERED SPELLCASTING THAT WAY BEFORE.

I'D NEVER CONSIDERED IT, BUT...

BUT...

GWIP

I'M IN, TOO.

I'LL HELP.

NO...

I *WANT* TO HELP, IF YOU'LL HAVE ME.

AND IF IT FAILS, WE CAN JUST THINK OF ANOTHER PLAN. RIGHT?

WE DIDN'T GET ANYWHERE THE WAY WE APPROACHED IT YESTERDAY.

TRYING A NEW APPROACH CAN'T HURT.

I PROMISED TO HELP TEACH YOU MAGIC.

SO...

WHATEVER HAPPENS, HAPPENS!

GRRN

GRRN

ARE WE DOING THIS OR NOT?!

E-E-ENOUGH ALREADY!

FW

WE'RE DOING IT!

IP!

AGOTTA LOVE IT.

SQUEEEEEZE

YOU'RE THE BEST, AGOTT!!

AGOTTA BE KIDDING.

YEAH!!

THEN LET'S GET TO WORK!

YEAH!!!

WHATEVER HAPPENS, HAPPENS!

YOU KNOW WHO YOU ALL REMIND ME OF?!

WELL, I NEVER!

SORRY ABOUT THIS, SINOCIA ...

OLRUGGIO! REMIND THEM HOW IMPORTANT IT IS THAT THEY GET THEIR REST!

...

YOU GIRLS NEED TO GO TO SLEEP!

HMPH! I *KNOW* YOU'RE ALL AWAKE UNDER THERE!

BULGE ニwキリ...

HUH.

IT'S THIS SEAL RIGHT HERE.

UM!

SQUIRM もぞ

I CAN'T QUITE FIGURE OUT HOW TO MAKE IT WORK...

OH! MASTER OLRUGGIO! PERFECT TIMING!

HUH?

WELL SAID, COCO.

YOU'VE MOVED ON TO SOMETHING BETTER.

GOOD JOB.

THAT'S A BIG STEP FORWARD.

RATHER THAN SAYING YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO DO...

...YOU'RE ASKING *WHAT* YOU CAN DO TO MAKE IT WORK.

...!

MAGIC LIKE THIS IS SURE TO BE A LOT OF FUN FOR HIM.

BUT THIS REALLY IS LOOKING BETTER AND BETTER.

JUST WAIT! I'M GONNA KEEP GETTING BETTER AT NOT KNOWING STUFF!

I THINK YOU MEAN "GET BETTER AT FIGURING STUFF OUT."

THANK YOU!

WOO!

...OH?

NOT BAD AT ALL.

HEH.

WELL LOOK AT THAT.

Yes, M...aawuun...

Get to sleep.

Go on, now.

HEY, QIFREY.

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE THE STRIDES THOSE FOUR ARE MAKING.

CREAK

BETTER WAKE UP SOON, OR YOU'RE GONNA MISS IT ALL.

ONCE YOU'RE UP, WE GOTTA TALK.

AND ANOTHER THING...

AND DEPENDING ON WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY...

...I MIGHT HAVE A BIG DECISION ON MY HANDS...

ONE MORE DAY...

PASS OR FAIL...

...IT ALL COMES DOWN TO TOMORROW!

GRACIOUS.

WE'RE PAST NOON ON THE FINAL DAY.

SHLUU

MP

WHERE *ARE* THOSE FOUR?!

WAAAAH!!

LORD BEL TIRES OF WAITING! HE LONGS FOR COMPANY!

YESTERDAY, THEY DIDN'T APPROACH ME EVEN ONCE!

WAS THREE DAYS NOT ENOUGH?

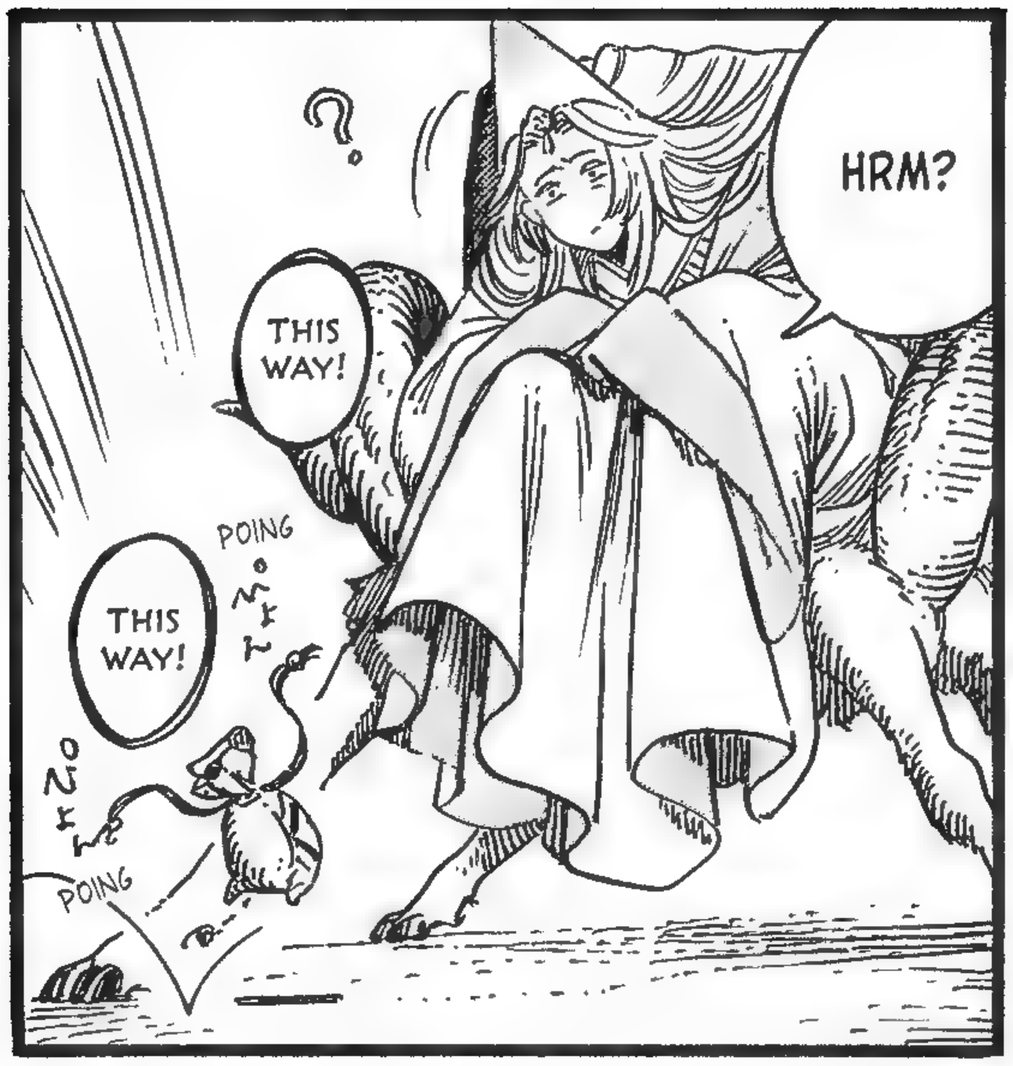
GWSH

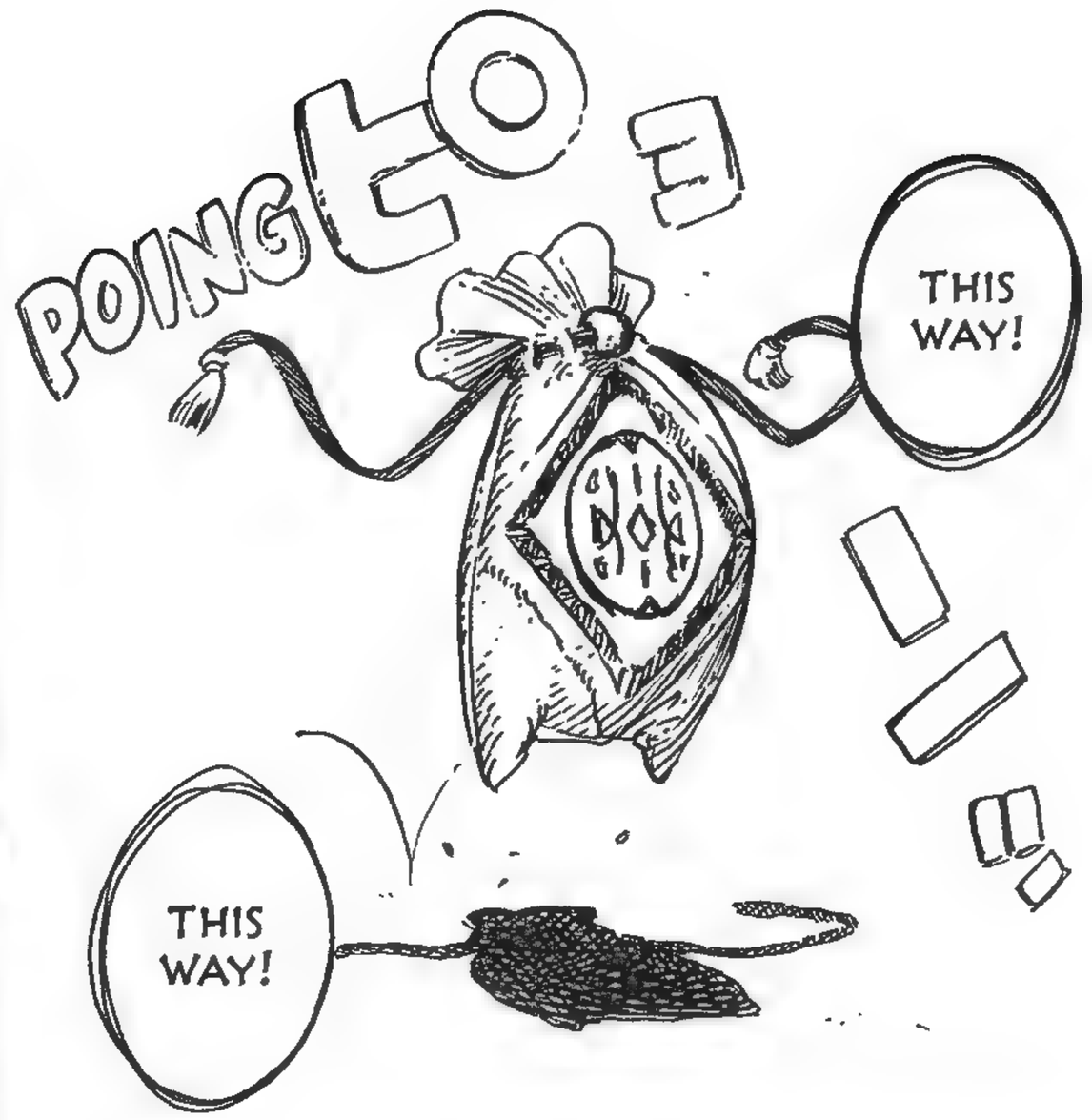
GWSH

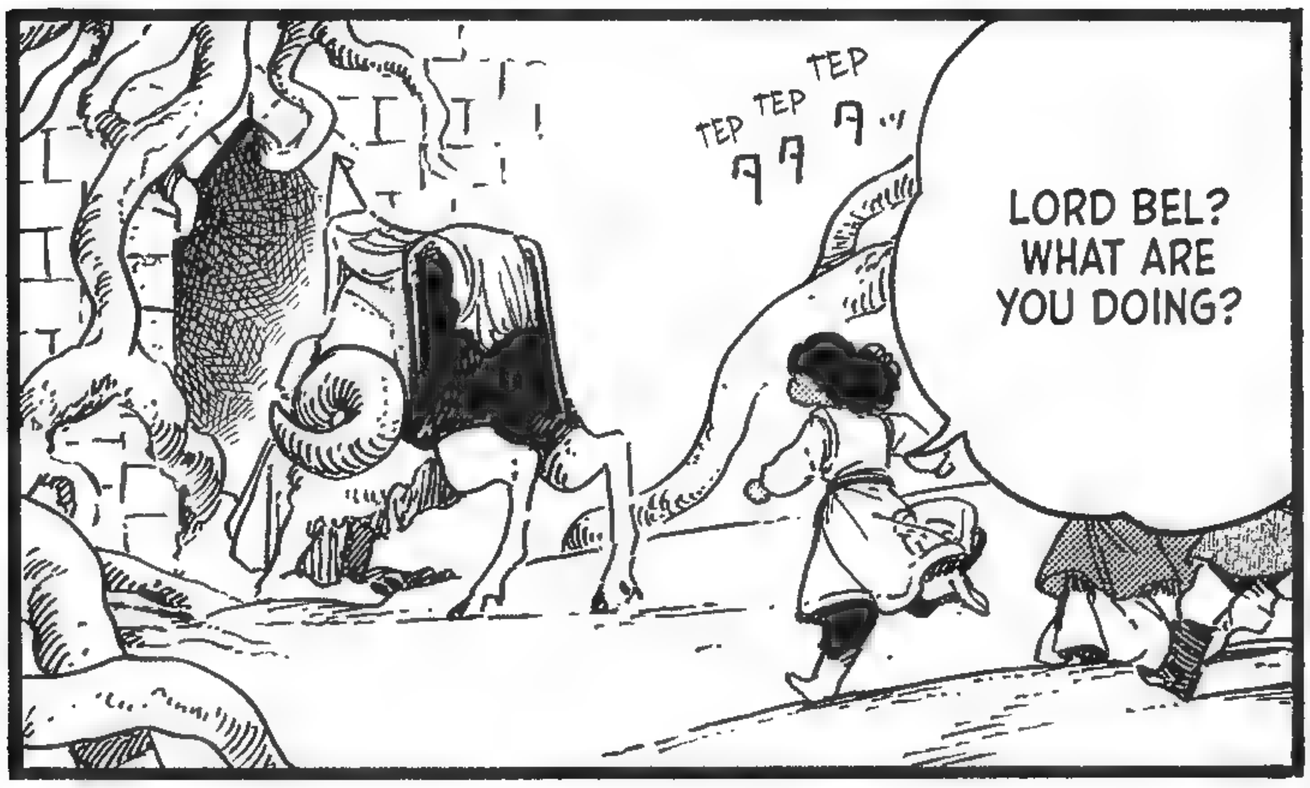
HE— HUH...?

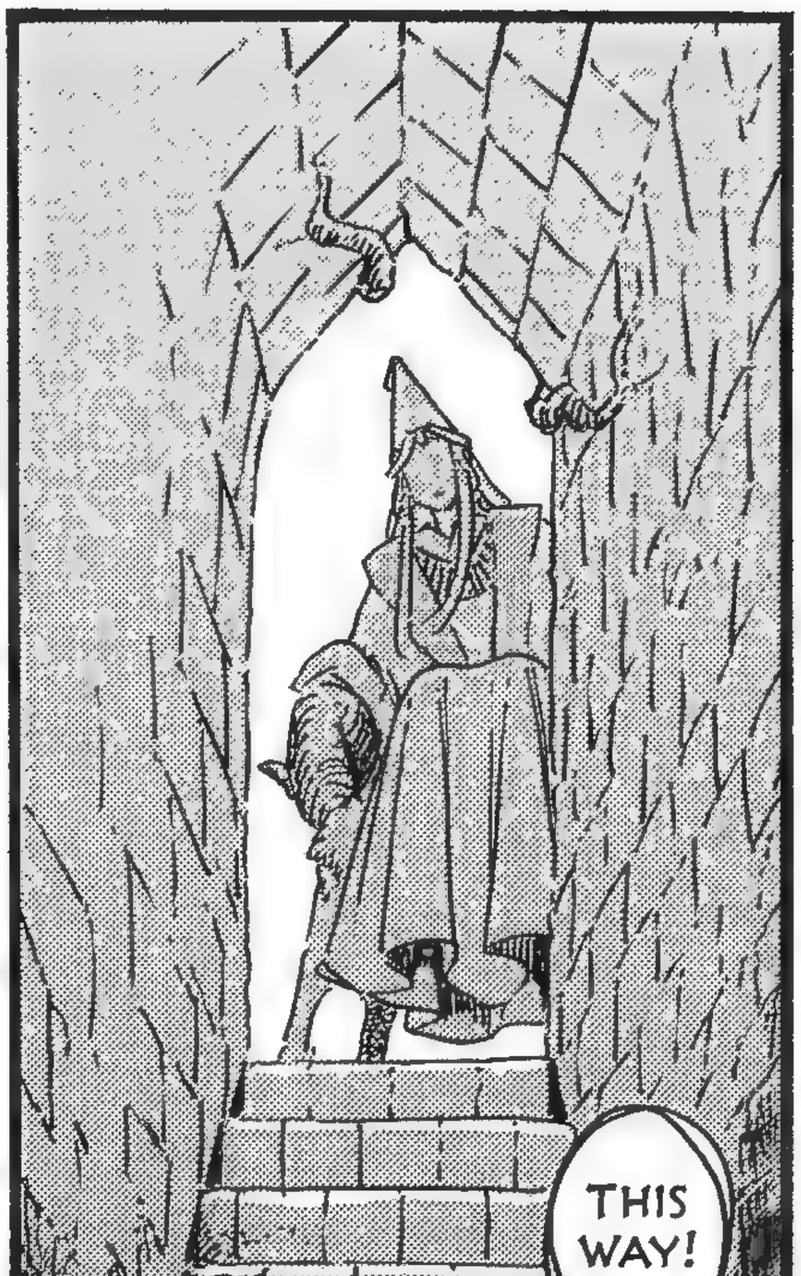
THIS WAY!

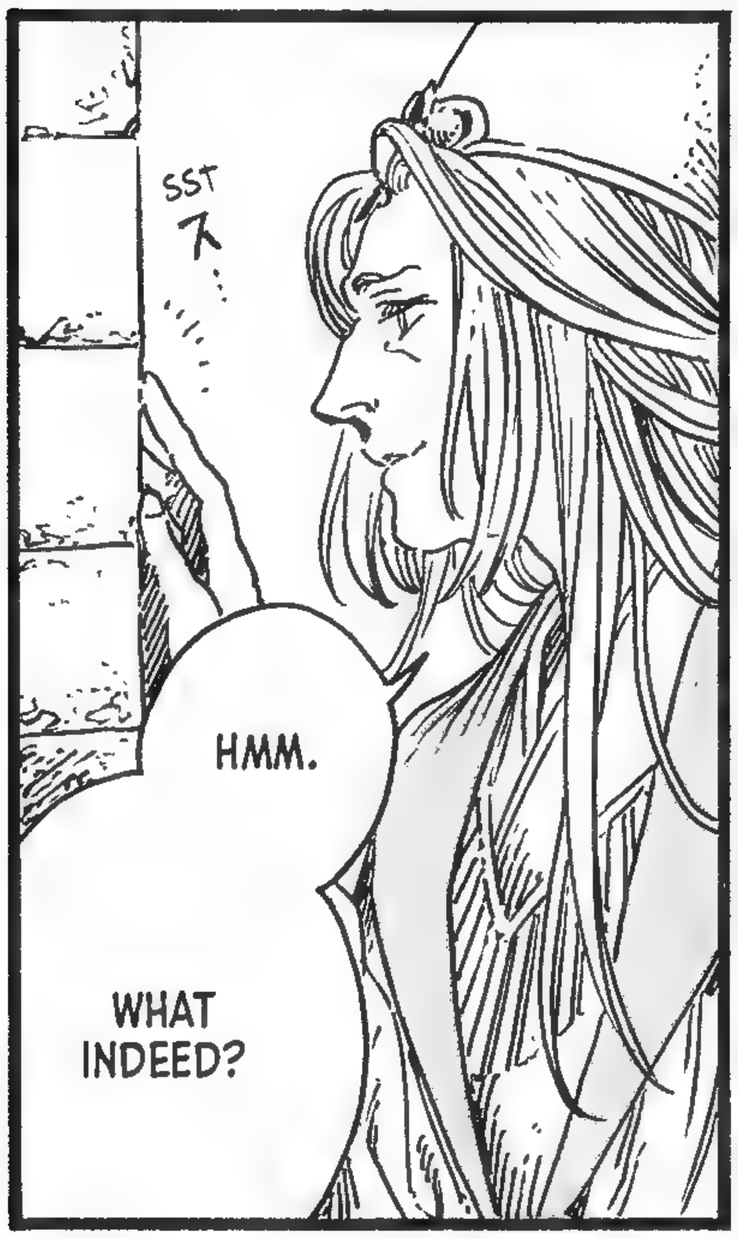
THIS WAY!


?
HRM?
THIS WAY!
POING
THIS WAY!
SNIFF
POING


POING TO
THIS WAY!
THIS WAY!


TEP
TEP TEP
TEP
LORD BEL? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?


THIS WAY!
THIS WAY!


SST
HMM.
WHAT INDEED?

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS *THAT?*
IS IT TELLING YOU TO FOLLOW IT?

WELL! LOOK AT THAT!

みよ

VWO OMF

LET'S FIND OUT WHERE IT GOES!

THIS WAY!

THE TUNNEL GOT WIDER!

C'MON, LORD BEL!

IT'S AN ADVENTURE! AN ENCHANTED PATH!

THIS WAY!

THIS WAY!

THIS WAY!

THIS WAY!

THIS WAY!

THIS WAY!

THIS WAY!

LORD BEL! LOOK!

!

RIGHT OUT THERE!

MY GOODNESS. IS THIS...

...RAIN?

FSSSH

FSSSH

FSSSH

SPLISH

THE GREAT HALL IS HOME TO ALL SORTS OF MAGIC.

BUT I KNOW TWO THINGS YOU DON'T SEE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN.

KNOW WHAT THEY ARE?

A WELCOME RAINSTORM THAT POURS FROM THE SKY...

...AND THE GLITTER OF SUNLIGHT AFTER THE CLOUDS PASS!

...AND THE LIGHT OF THE SKY IS SHINING THROUGH MY WINDOWWAYS.

THE GRASPING WIND TO TUG DROPLETS DOWN FROM THE SEA-MIST IS MY IDEA...

...THE CASTLE'S NARROW STAIRWAYS WITHOUT TURNING TO SMOKE!

I CAME UP WITH THE SHIFTING WALLS SO YOU COULD MAKE IT THROUGH...

...AND INSTEAD HAVE YOU COME DISCOVER THE SURPRISE YOURSELF.

WE DECIDED TO STOP GOING TO *YOU* WITH OUR SPELLS ...

AND THE LITTLE POUCH OF CALLING WAS MY INVENTION.

DID OUR SPELLS PROVIDE A FUN SURPRISE?

SO? HOW DID YOU LIKE SEEING THE WEATHER CHANGE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN?

WE HOPE THEY MADE YOU FEEL ALL TINGLY AND BUBBLY!

WE DID OUR VERY BEST TO DRAW THEM ALL.

WHOA!

ABOVE THEIR HEADS!

OVER THERE!

LORD BEL! WHAT'S *THAT?!*

!

...KNOWS THEM AS *RAINBOWS!*

THE SURFACE WORLD ...

DEAR ME. YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ONE BEFORE, HAVE YOU, CHILDREN?

IT'S SO PRETTY! DON'T YOU THINK SO, LORD BEL?

WHAT'S THE NAME OF *THAT* SPELL?

...AND RECREATE THEM *INTENTIONALLY...*

BUT SURELY IT'S POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE THE REQUIRED CONDITIONS...

IS IT THE LIGHT OF THE NEWLY CLEARED SKY?

WOOOW! WHAT ARE RAINBOWS DOING HERE UNDER THE SEA?!

WOW! AMAZING!

MAGIC REALLY *IS* THE MIRACLE THAT MAKES OUR WORLD VIBRANT!

PFFFT!!

HAH! AHAHAHAHA! I CANNOT CONTAIN MYSELF ANY LONGER!

PFF...

...WOULD END UP SURPRISING *YOUR-SELVES!*

TO THINK! THE SPELLS YOU CRAFTED TO STARTLE ME...

THEN... DOES THAT MEAN...?

DELIGHT-FUL!

AH, HOW I ENVY YOUR YOUNG MINDS!

...AND THE BEAUTY OF THE UNEXPECTED RAINBOW.

...THE NOVELTY OF BRINGING THE SKY DOWN TO THE OCEAN DEPTHS...

...THE DELIGHT OF AN IMPASSABLE CORRIDOR WIDENING TO OPEN THE WAY...

THE EXHILA-RATION OF ADVENTURE FROM CHASING THE POUCH ...

FWUM

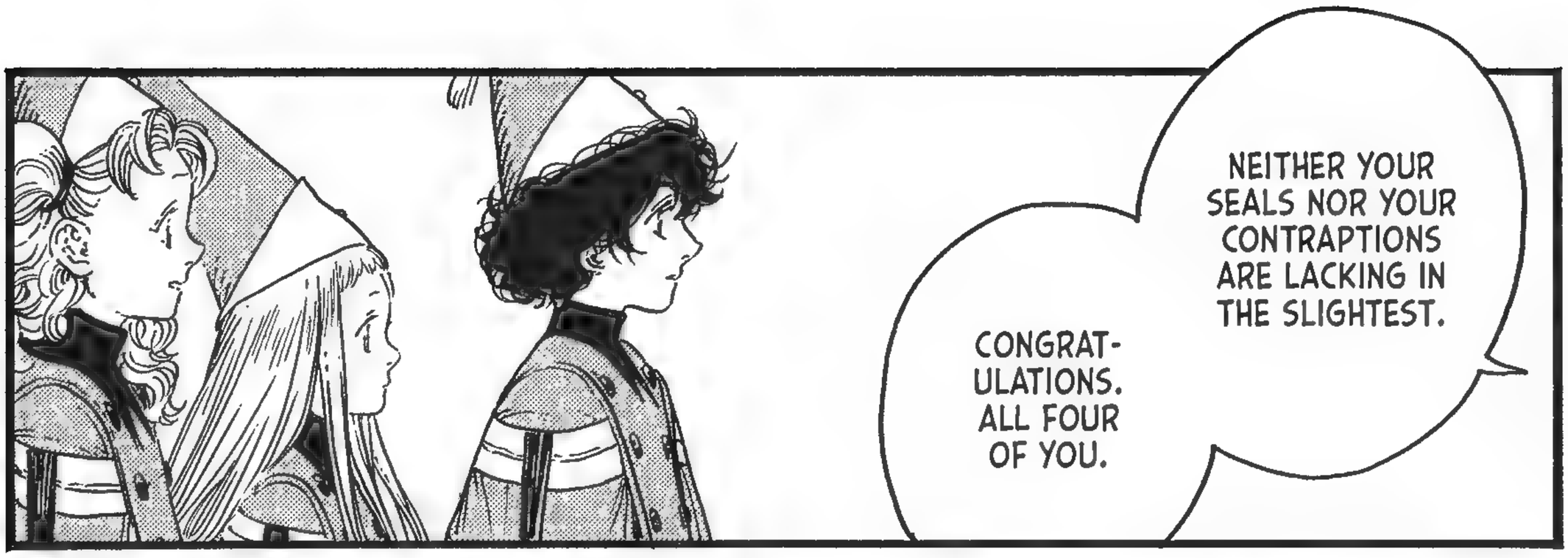
AND MORE THAN ANY-THING...

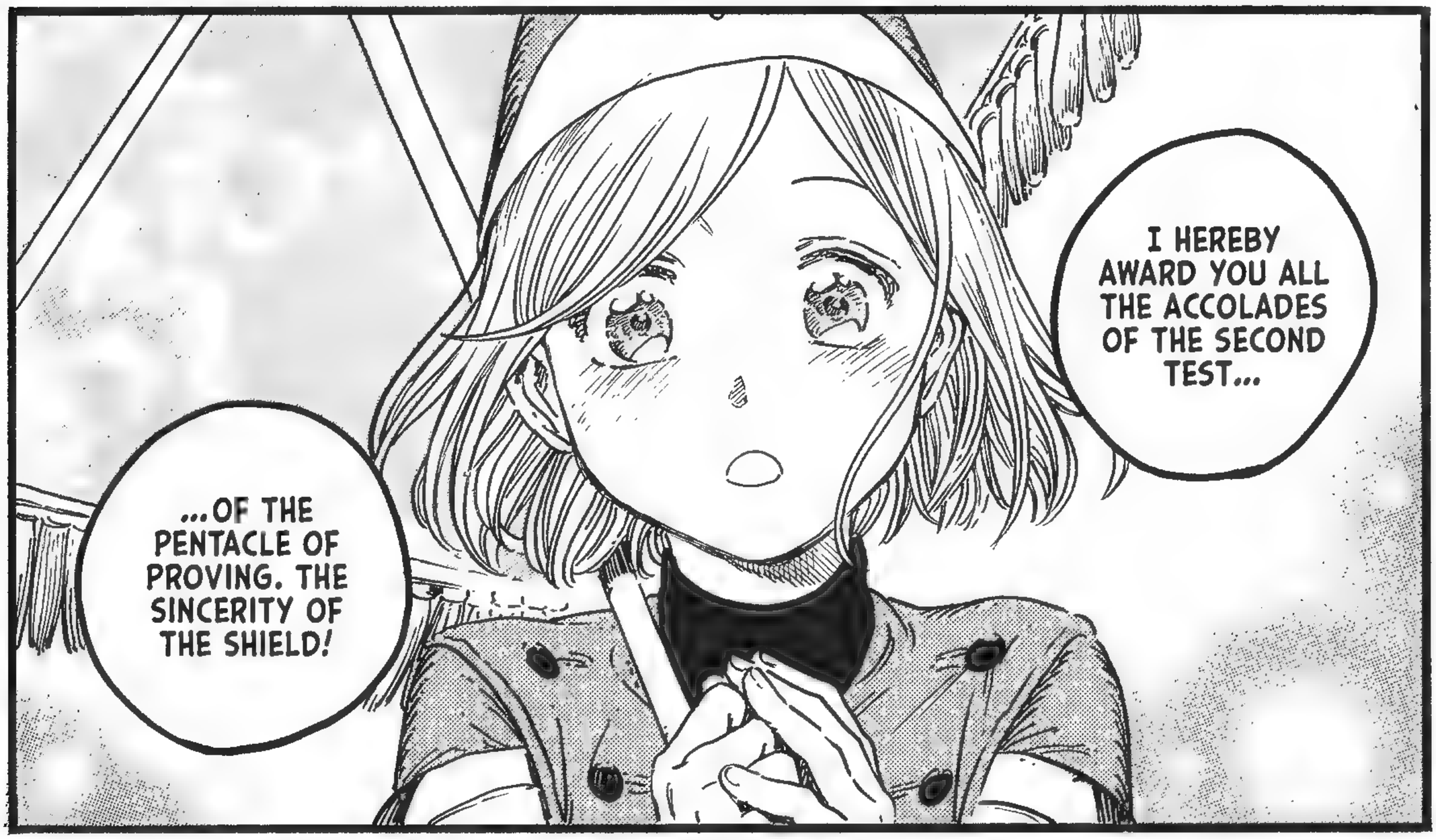
...THE FACT THAT YOU ENTICED ME HERE...

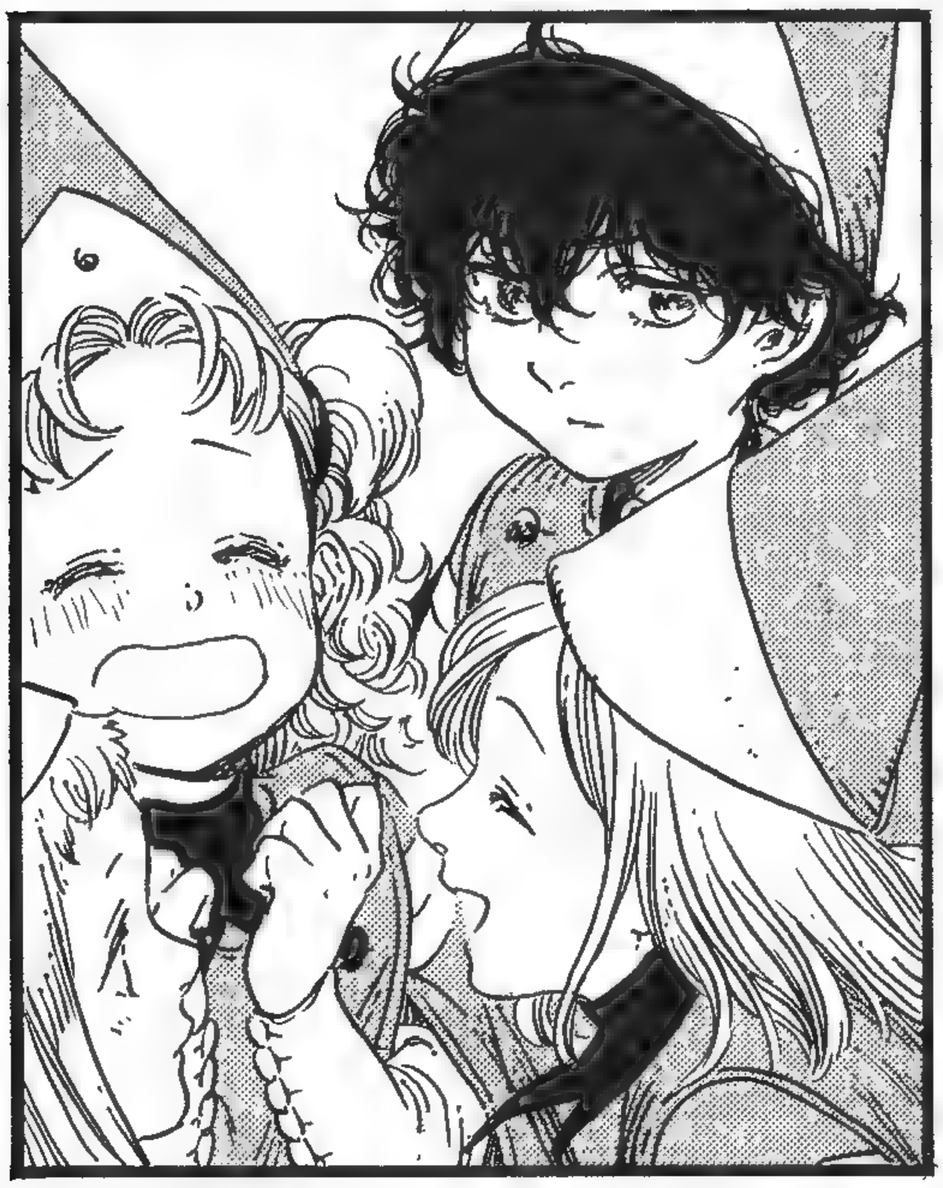
...NOT SCULPTURE OF SMOKE NOR ILLUSION, BUT THE *TRUE* ME... THAT WAS A SURPRISE BEYOND MY IMAGINING.

...ALL THE WAY DOWN TO THIS PLACE...

-KLAK カッ!


NEITHER YOUR SEALS NOR YOUR CONTRAPTIONS ARE LACKING IN THE SLIGHTEST.
CONGRAT-ULATIONS. ALL FOUR OF YOU.


I HEREBY AWARD YOU ALL THE ACCOLADES OF THE SECOND TEST...
...OF THE PENTACLE OF PROVING. THE SINCERITY OF THE SHIELD!



HOORAY!
W...
WE DID IT!
WE DID IT! WE REALLY DID IT!

YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO PULL IT OFF, AGOTT.

I KNOW YOU DO.

REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT YOUR HOUSE CHASING AFTER YOU?

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE'LL DO!

WE'LL DRAW LORD BELDARUIT TO US!

I JUST KNOW IT.

...

COCO!

COCO!

AND WE'LL CELEBRATE. WITH *CAKE.*

ALL RIGHT! TIME TO GO TELL MASTER OLLY THE GOOD NEWS!

SECRET! ONLY YOU!

LISTEN IN SECRET!

COCO!

HUH? IT'S THE POUCH OF CALLING.

IS IT TRYING TO TELL ME SOME-THING?

ズOOO SHF

COCO!

COCO!

I'M FINE!

BUT THERE'S SOME-THING I GOTTA DO!

COCO? WHAT'S WRONG? AREN'T YOU COMING?

FOLLOW THE SMOKE!

COME IN SECRET! ONLY YOU!

WHEN IT'S NIGHT-TIME...

SNEEEAK

COCO THE OUTSIDER. WITNESS TO THE FORBIDDEN SPELLS.

ONLY YOU!

COCO!

THERE'S SOMETHING YOU NEED TO HEAR.

TNK

Witch Hat Atelier

IT LOOKS LIKE...

...THE GUIDANCE ORB IS POINTING TO...

Chapter 35

...THIS STRANGE DOOR.

...

"FOLLOW THE SMOKE"...

I WONDER WHICH ONE I'M SUPPOSED TO TURN?

THAT'S A LOT OF DOOR-KNOBS...

AH. YOU'RE HERE.

キィ CREEEAK ィ...

SMOKE...

KER-CHAK

!

SO SORRY TO MAKE YOU COME ALL THIS WAY, COCO.

BUT I DESIRED VERY MUCH TO SPEAK WITH YOU.

MUCH APPRECI-ATED, BUT I'LL BE FINE.

I COULD DO IT, IF YOU LIKE.

FWISH

GLANCE

GLANCE

PLEASE. HAVE A SEAT.

ARE YOU FOND OF SWEET TEA? ALLOW ME TO PUT SOME ON.

PUSH

KCHK

IF YOU'D JUST HOLD THE CUP.

GLUP

GLUP

トTUP
コTUP
コTUP
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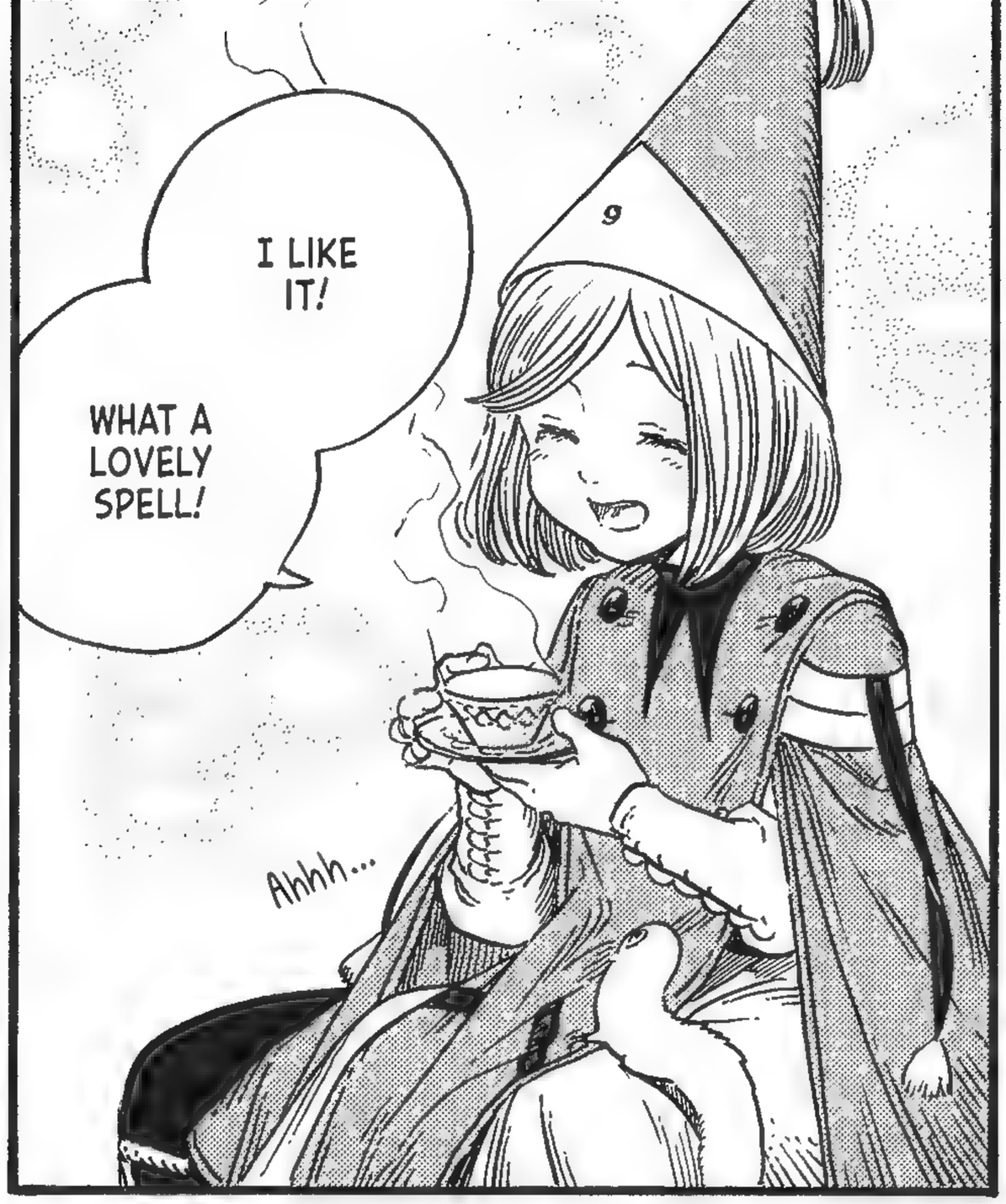
TUP
TUP
トー
IT IS CALLED A PALMDRAGON TEACUP.
THE TEA! IT TURNED INTO A DRAGON ...!
WOOOW ...
HUH?
WATER-SCULPTURE. A SIGIL IS HIDDEN AMONG THE SAUCER'S PATTERN, WHICH THE RING ON THE BASE OF THE CUP COMPLETES.
But it goes away when you take a sip...

ズズズ
Z-ZWOOM
BUT YOUR PERFORMANCE TODAY! EQUALLY AS LOVELY!
ISN'T IT, THOUGH? ISN'T IT?!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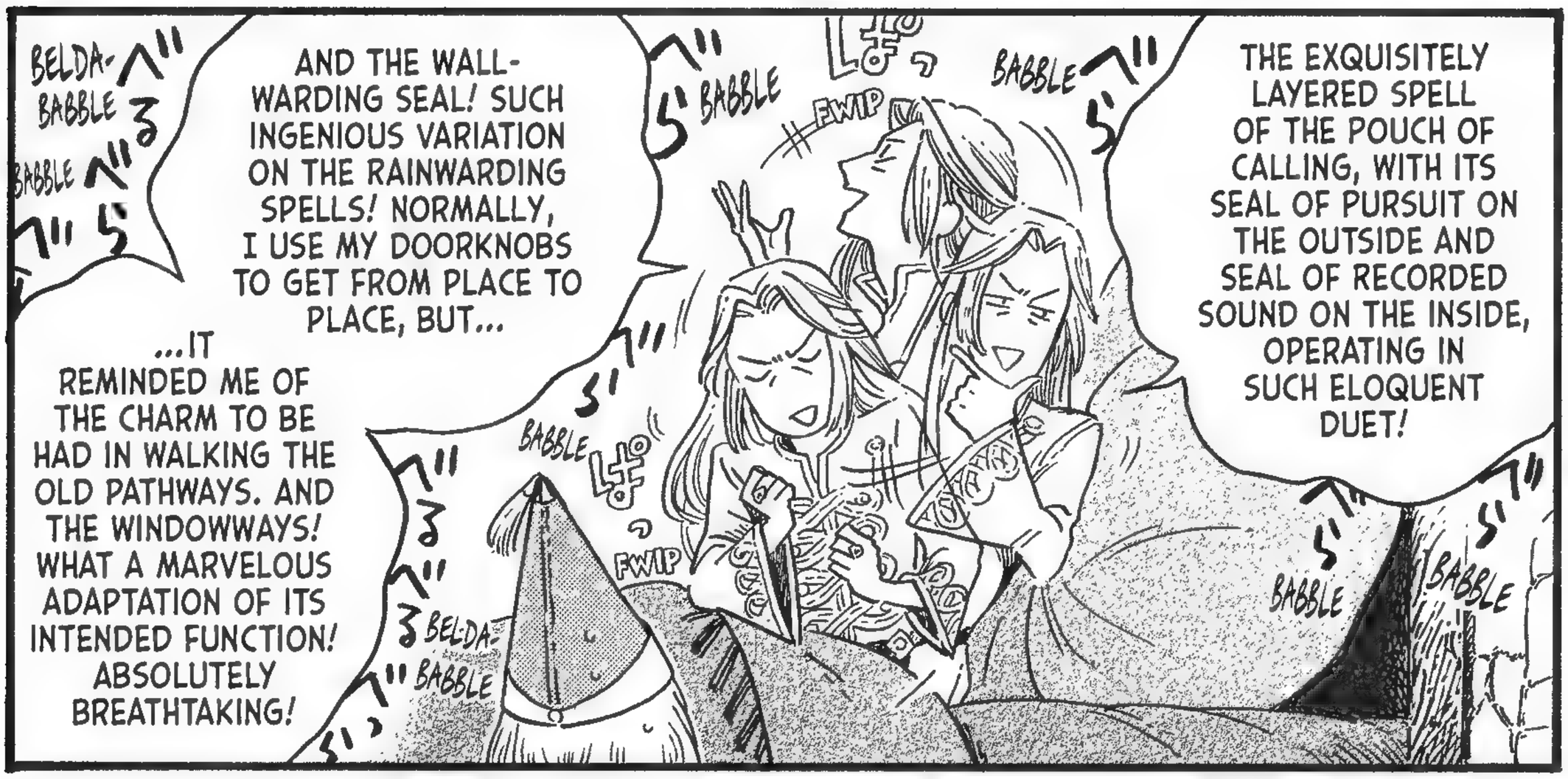
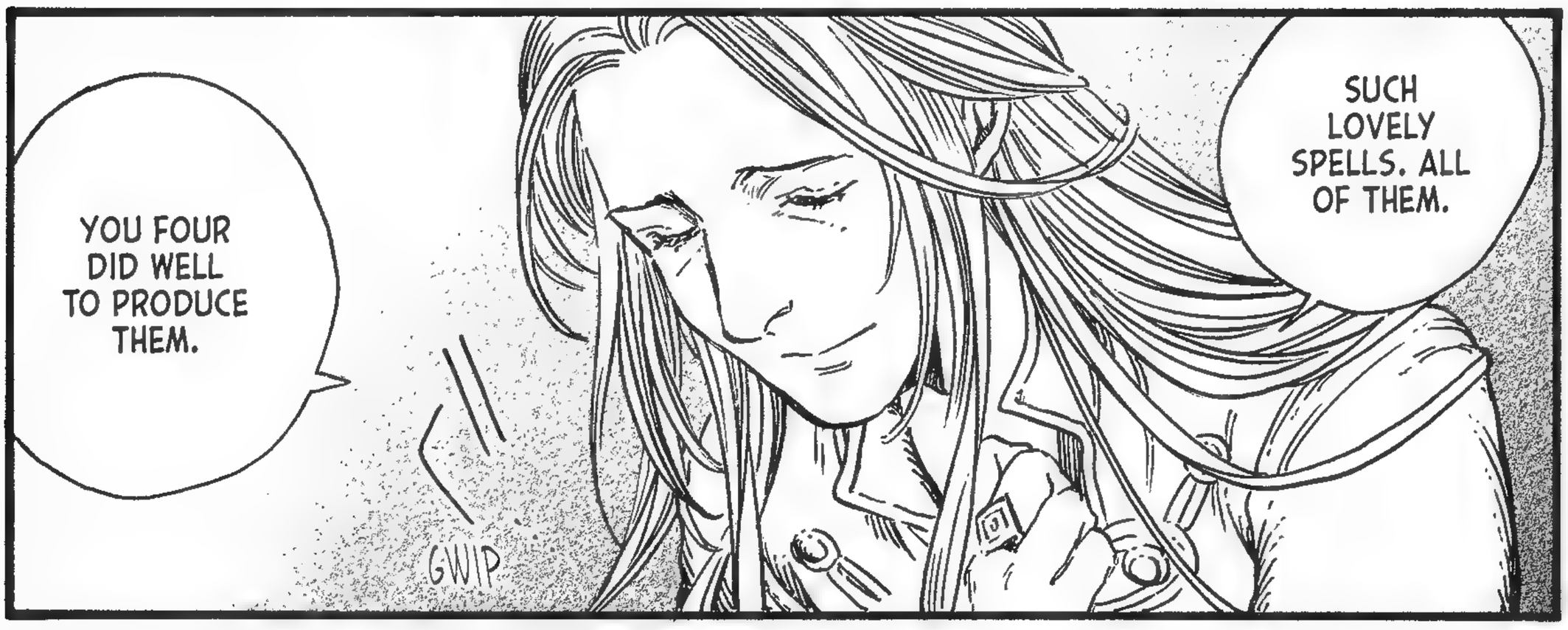
I LIKE IT!
WHAT A LOVELY SPELL!
Ahhh...


BELDA-BABBLE
BABBLE
AND THE WALL-WARDING SEAL! SUCH INGENIOUS VARIATION ON THE RAINWARDING SPELLS! NORMALLY, I USE MY DOORKNOBS TO GET FROM PLACE TO PLACE, BUT...
...IT REMINDED ME OF THE CHARM TO BE HAD IN WALKING THE OLD PATHWAYS. AND THE WINDOWWAYS! WHAT A MARVELOUS ADAPTATION OF ITS INTENDED FUNCTION! ABSOLUTELY BREATHTAKING!
BABBLE
FWIP
THE EXQUISITELY LAYERED SPELL OF THE POUCH OF CALLING, WITH ITS SEAL OF PURSUIT ON THE OUTSIDE AND SEAL OF RECORDED SOUND ON THE INSIDE, OPERATING IN SUCH ELOQUENT DUET!


YOU FOUR DID WELL TO PRODUCE THEM.
SUCH LOVELY SPELLS. ALL OF THEM.
GWIP

...REMARKABLE. ALL THAT FROM THE HUMBLE GRASPING WIND.

AND THE ONE TO MAKE THE RAIN FALL...

...A PRIMER SPELL EXPERTLY ADAPTED TO YOUR NEW ENVIRONS HERE AT THE BASE OF THE SEA.

TUP

TUP TUP

TUP TUP

TUP TUP TUP ...

YES... I'D GO SO FAR AS TO SAY THIS IS WHAT I LIVE FOR.

...ON ENCOUNTERING EACH OF THE SPELLS YOU'D WORKED SO HARD TO PERFECT.

I MUST ADMIT I FELT MY HEART AFLUTTER...

Yes! Yes! I could not say it better!

ISN'T IT, THOUGH ?!

OOOH!

AH! 'TIS SUCH JOY TO MEET A KINDRED SPIRIT!

I KNOW THAT FEELING!

I REALLY DO! I KNOW IT SO WELL!

Loveli-ness is...

...the sustenance of life!

I...!

INDEED... I AM EVER SO FOND OF MAGIC.

I'D PERHAPS GO SO FAR AS TO CALL IT MY ONE TRUE LOVE.

FWOO

SHH

きゃっ
SKRK

THOSE WHO LOVE MAGIC HAVE AN UNQUENCHABLE THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE...

...AND THOSE WHO THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE ARE IN TURN LOVED BACK BY THE SPELLS.

JUST AS THE ONE WHO ONCE KNEW NAUGHT...

...NOW UNDER-STANDS THAT VERY RELATION-SHIP.

KER

POOF

AHHH!

SKREE!

GWIP

...

SHWISH
SHWISH
SHWISH

I'VE HEARD A GREAT DEAL OF YOU FROM OUR MUTUAL ACQUAINTANCE.

FWISH
FWISH

DEAR ME, DID I FRIGHTEN YOU?

FORGIVE ME. DO NOT THINK TOO MUCH OF IT.

WHIRL
WHIRL

A CONTRAPTION PRESENTED TO ME BY MY VERY FIRST APPRENTICE.

...THE TEACUP YOU HOLD. IT WAS A GIFT.

WHO'S THAT?

A WITCH PARTICULARLY ADEPT AT MANIPULATING WATER...

HE IS, I BELIEVE, SOMEONE YOU'VE COME TO KNOW QUITE WELL.

HUH...?

DOES THAT MEAN YOU'RE...?

LORD BELDARUIT ...

...YOU WERE THE MASTER... TO *MY* MASTER?

ALL CHILDREN, THAT IS. AMONG WHICH YOU NUMBER.

THESE DAYS, AS THE WISE IN TEACHINGS, I AM CHARGED WITH ENSURING ...

...A PLACE WHERE THE CHILDREN CAN STUDY THE WAYS OF MAGIC IN SAFETY.

IN A TIME LONG PAST.

JUST SO.

COCO.

ALLOW ME TO SHELTER YOU. TO KEEP YOU SAFE FROM ALL HARM.

UNDER MY PROTECTION, NOT EVEN THE KNIGHTS WOULD DARE LAY A HAND ON YOU.

YOU WOULD BE HIDDEN, FAR AWAY FROM BOTH THE BRIMMED HATS, *AND* FROM THAT QIFREY, TOO.

WHAT DO YOU SAY, COCO?

WOULD YOU NOT REMAIN HERE IN THE GREAT HALL?

STAY, AND BE MY APPRENTICE.

WHY?

GLUP

WHY FROM MASTER QIFREY, TOO...?

SWAY

OOF...

COCO...?

CHAPTER 35 ♦ END

THE TOOLS OF WITCH HAT

PART 1

TOOLS ENCHANTED WITH MAGIC ARE KNOWN IN THIS WORLD AS CONTRAPTIONS. SUCH ITEMS ARE PRIZED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, AS THEY CAN BE USED EVEN BY THOSE WHO DO NOT PRACTICE MAGIC. THEY CAN ONLY BE CREATED BY WITCHES AND THEREFORE COMMAND HIGH PRICES. THE CRAFTING OF CONTRAPTIONS BEFORE ONE HAS TAKEN THE TEST AND BECOME AN APPRENTICE IS FORBIDDEN. BELOW IS A SELECTION OF THE VARIOUS CONTRAPTIONS THAT HAVE APPEARED IN THE STORY THUS FAR, AS WELL AS SOME OF THE TOOLS AND COMPONENTS USED TO CAST MAGIC.

SYLPH SHOES

FIRST DESCRIBED IN CHAPTER 4

A CONTRAPTION THAT ENABLES ITS WEARER TO FLOAT. ONE HALF OF A SEAL IS DRAWN ON EACH THE RIGHT AND LEFT SOLE OF A PAIR OF FOOTWEAR. WHEN BROUGHT TOGETHER, THE SEAL ACTIVATES. EXTENDED USE LEADS TO FATIGUED AND QUIVERING THIGH MUSCLES.

TOILET OF THE VOID

FIRST APPEARS IN CHAPTER 3

A CONTRAPTION THAT LINKS TO OUTER SPACE. DESIGNED SUCH THAT WASTE SIMPLY DISAPPEARS INTO THE VOID. DEVELOPED BY A WITCH WHO MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED THE VERY NIGHT AFTER COMPLETING THIS INVENTION.

VAPOR BUBBLE

FIRST APPEARS IN CHAPTER 2

A CONTRAPTION THAT COLLECTS MOISTURE FROM THE AIR INTO WATER THAT CAN BE CONVENIENTLY POURED. THE BOTTOM PLATE FORMS A SPOUT WHEN TIPPED. USEFUL AS A SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER.

WINDOWWAY

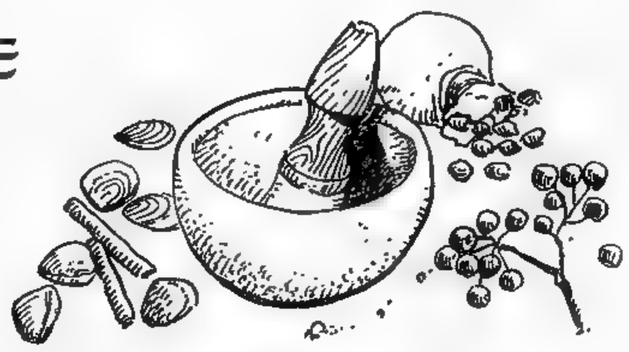
FIRST APPEARS IN CHAPTER 2

ABLE TO CREATE A TRAVERSABLE LINK WITH EXIT PORTALS CONSTRUCTED IN OTHER LOCATIONS. INVOLVES A SEAL THAT IS EXCEPTIONALLY LARGE AND DIFFICULT TO PRODUCE.

COMPONENT PESTLE

FIRST APPEARS IN CHAPTER 3

USED TO GRIND INGREDIENTS TO MIX WITH CONJURING INK IN ORDER TO PERFORM PARTICULAR SPELLS. USES AN EARTHENWARE CONSTRUCTION.



CONJURING INK

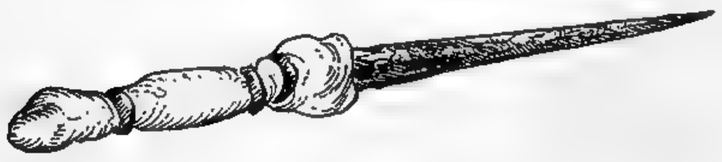
FIRST DESCRIBED IN CHAPTER 3

INK MADE FROM A SPECIAL LIQUID CALLED WOODCRUOR, WHICH IS HARVESTED FROM THE SILVERWOOD TREE. ONLY SEALS DRAWN IN THIS SUBSTANCE WILL ACTIVATE.

WOODCRUOR WAND

FIRST APPEARS IN CHAPTER 3

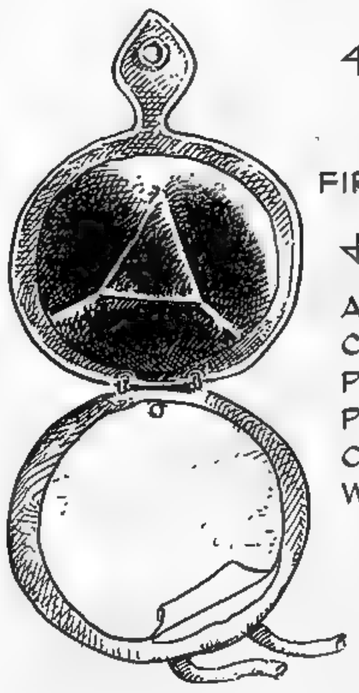
A ROD OF HARDENED WOODCRUOR. USEFUL FOR INSCRIBING SEALS UPON SURFACES SUCH AS WOOD OR STONE, BUT ITS MARKINGS RUB AWAY EASILY, AND IT IS THUS SELDOM EMPLOYED.



INK WAND

FIRST DESCRIBED IN CHAPTER 3

A WAND USED FOR DRAWING, CONSTRUCTED OF A WOODEN SHAFT FITTED WITH A METAL TIP. THE SHAFT IS COMMONLY WHITTLED AND DECORATED FOR APPEARANCE AND EASE OF USE.



PALM QUIRE

FIRST APPEARS IN CHAPTER 3

A CIRCULAR NOTEPAD THAT CAN BE HIDDEN IN THE PALM OF ONE'S HAND. THE PAD OF PAGES INSIDE IS OCCASIONALLY REPLACED WHEN IT RUNS LOW.

Bonus Chapter
Eating

WOULD YOU LIKE A LITTLE TASTE-TEST?

WE'LL ADD A LITTLE CHEESE MIXED WITH MILK...

...AND SOME CRUSHED WALNUTS, AND...

INSTEAD OF FLOWERS AND FRUIT, THE PLANT GROWS HONEY.

P-POING P-POING

Witch Hat Kitchen

NOKI
A treat made of Honeytree nectar mixed with cheese. Also makes an excellent sauce for meat dishes.

Silvernectar Wine
A sweet alcoholic beverage for which the hollow cavity of the Honeytree branch is fashioned into a bottle.

IT'S PRETTY TASTY ON BREAD AND COOKIES, TOO!

THE SWEETNESS AND PLEASANT SCENT OF WOOD GOES QUITE WELL WITH CHEESE, NO?

SO GOOD!

BUT THEY'RE SO CONVENIENT TO USE!

HEH HEH

MAYBE YOU SHOULD STOP USING THE TABLEWARE TO HOLD CASTING COMPONENTS...

Like... as a pestle or an ink dish...

OKAY!

NOW... HOW ABOUT YOU CALL THE OTHERS AND WE'LL ENJOY OUR SNACK WITH SOME TEA?

OH, BUT... MASTER?

Bonus Chapter
Sleeping

YOU SEEM RATHER RESTLESS.

WHAT'S THE TROUBLE?

?

ZORHHH...

GRNGH...

JJO-ROLL

JJO-ROLL

JJO-ROOOLL

...THEN MY *BOTTOM* GETS COLD!

BUT IF I TURN TO *FACE* THE FIREPLACE...

ROLL

コロ-

I see...

...MY LAP STARTS TO GET COLD.

ROLL

IF I POINT MY BOTTOM TOWARD THE FIRE-PLACE...

NO! THAT'S TAKING IT TOO FAR!

SHALL I FETCH YOU A BLANKET?

Then I'd look like I was *really* lazing around!!

HWUP

HWUP

GLAD TO HEAR IT.

TH-THE BRUSH-BUDDY'S ALL ROASTY-TOASTY! IT'S KEEPING MY BOTTOM WARM!

ナニ-ヨ-ム…

FWOOOON

...WE'VE GOT THIS LITTLE ONE TO THANK FOR SHOWING MASTER WHERE TO FIND US WHEN WE GOT TRANSPORTED AWAY.

HEY, THAT'S RIGHT...

Ooo

※SEE CHAPTER 6.

I'M TRAPPED! THE BRUSH-BUDDY'S SO CUTE I CAN'T DARE DISTURB IT...

THREE CLOCK MARKS LATER

GLAD TO HEAR IT.

THANKS, LITTLE BRUSH-BUDDY.

What could have caused

these two who love magic so much...

...to grow so distant?

A TRAGIC TALE FINALLY COMES TO LIGHT...

This is the story of Beldaruit, a man

who stands at the pinnacle of society

and yet has never forgotten

the joy of magic...

LORD BELDA-RUIT...

...YOU WERE THE MASTER... TO *MY* MASTER?

...and of the first apprentice he trained,

a boy named Qifrey.

Volume 7:
Coming Soon!!

Witch Hat Atelier 6

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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